A TRUE NARRATIVE OF THE Sufferings and Relief OF A YOUNG GIRLE; Strangely Moleſted, By Evil SPIRITS and their INSTRUMENTS, in the WEST:

COLLECTED From *Authentick Teſtimonies* there-anent.

WITH A PREFACE and POST-SCRIPT

Containing *Reflections* on what is moſt *Material* or *Curious*; either in the *Hiſtory*, or *Trial* of the SEVEN WITCHES who were Condemn'd to be Execute in that Countrey.

JOB 2. 6. *And the Lord ſaid unto Satan, behold he is in thine hand, but ſave his life.*

MATH. 15. 22. *Have mercy upon me, O Lord, thou Son of David; my Daughter is grievouſly vexed with a Devil.*

ROM. 16. 20. *And the God of Peace ſhall bruiſe Satan under your Feet ſhortly.*

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NATURAL LAW

Surrendered by

A YOUNG GIRL

PREFACE.

WISE Men do juſtly ſuſpect, and are hardly brought to credit, the Accounts of *extraordinary* Stories; eſpecially anent *Witchcraft*: Becauſe the frequent impoſtures which the *Romanſts* have obtruded on the World in their Miracles and Legends; the many *Relations* of odd things as done by Dæmons or Wizards, which yet, were either *falſe*, or the product of ſimple *natural cauſes*; the *ignorance* of ſeveral Judges and Juries, who have condemned filly Creatures *meerly* upon their ridiculous Confeſſions, or other ſlender proof; and the *difficulty* of conceiving the *Manner* or Philoſophy, of ſome Operations and Appearances, tho undoubtedly true in Fact; are good *prejudices* againſt a *Sudden belief*, and *precautions* for an *exact Inquiry*.

But they are *Men of Weak Souls*, deſtitute of *diſtinct* thoughts; who deny *all*, becauſe they have diſcovered Error *in ſome*; or condemn as falſe, *all facts*, which they are *ignorant how* they came to exiſt: By the *ſame rule* of reaſoning that, there are no *Enthuſiaſts*, becauſe the beſt Men have been ſome times miſtaken for theſe; nor are there any *Criminals*, in reſpect ſeverals have ſuffered who were not truely ſuch: conſidering, that many *Hiſtories* are fabulous, therefore none is to be truſted: And all the *Phænomena's* in Nature, whoſe inviſible cauſes they cannot comprehend, are meer Deluſions.

The following narrative, as to the truth of Fact, is the beſt atteſted piece of Hiſtory of this kind, that has occurred in many Ages: the moſt of the matters therein repreſented having gained the aſſent of *privat Sceptick's*; and been proven before *publick Judges*. So that it's more ſurpriſing that the ſtrange things of *Witchcraft* that any ſhould ſeriouſly deny the *Being thereof*, and from thence diſcredit ſuch uſeful *Providences at a diſtance*, when *Notoriety* has diſpelled all Objections in the places where they did exiſt.

Many Authors have proven, at large, that there are Witches and witchcraft from *Reaſon*, *Scripture*, *Antiquity*, and *Experience* of all Nations and Ages in the World: And they have *ſolved the difficulty's* which might obſtruct the belief of this *poſitive proof*, by *poſſible Hypotheſes* of Philoſophy: Where it is to be obſerved, that tho any ſuch explications of the natural manner of *Phenomena's* are ſubject to cavil, yet the exiſtence of a thing which has ſo certain *poſitive Evidence* cannot be denyed in ſound Reaſoning; becauſe, *Angels*, and *Men* not being made for *civill converſe* together in *this* World, and all *communion* with *Devils* being interdicted us, the Scripture *needed* to unfold little of their *way* of acting; and ſtill the *next* Age, may diſcover what *this* could not reach, As this has already unveiled what was thought unextricable in the *Laſt*: Unleſs *Impoſſibility* were preſently *demonſtrate*.

Herefore ſuch a ſhort hint, as may ſomewhat *Illuſtrat* the Events in the ſubſequent diſcourſe, may ſuffice in the preſent Caſe: Eſpecially ſince *Providence* does, by eminent occurrences, rather deſign our *practical inſtruction*, then a Subject of *curious Speculations*.

The Devil can aſſume a *corporeal Shape*, and *beſpeak* Man out of it: As he did to *Eve*, with our SAVIOUR, and in ſome *Heathen Oracles*: So that there is *Capacity* for their entring into *Contract*. Satan is *willing* thus to *inſnare* mortalls of being enemies to Heaven, Earth, and their own Salvation; by his indefatigable malice againſt all the *three*: As Curioſity in *Wits*; Revenge, and *Diſcloſure* of Secrets, in the *great*; covetouſneſs in the *Worldling* or *Poor*, and

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pasures in all whom he thinks *needfull* (they being impregnable otherways) and is *permitted* by Gon, to attaque in this manner; does sufficiently blind them, to be *Susceptible* of his Proposals thereanent. We see dayly, how Criminals *lusts* inflamed by Satan, divert their *Horrour* not only of eternal, but also of temporal *imminent* Torments: Perverting these instincts of *Nature* which might *fright* them from *surrender*. But further, he does *commonly* facilitate his conquest on Witches, by decoying them *Piece-meals* to his Lure, through the mediation of Others from amongst Mankind that are already embarqued, till they be prepared & he get an opportunity of making with them an *explicit* Transaction.

That accordingly he has *de facto prevailed* in making Sorcerers and Witches, appears from the Testimony of the *Wisest* and *Best*, in all *States* and *Times*.

The *Heathens*, by Nature and Practice, discovering this truth, made *Laws* against *Maleficos* and *Mathematica*'s (these last tho they assumed the name of an art much encouraged by the Legislators; yet were known, under the Cloak thereof, to consult the Devil anent the fates of Men and States) which the *Roman* Senate and People did *execute*: And even the *Persians*, in some good Reigns, did the like. Under the *Old Testament*, the Magicians of *Egypt* and *Babylon*, who were baffled by *Moses* and *Daniell*; *Balaam* and the VVitch of *Endor*, with the success of both; yea, *Jesabel*, *Manasseth*, and the ten *Tribes* their just Judgement for their Sorceries and VVitchcrafts amongst other Crimes; and the Laws made against such, as distinct from other Guilts: Under the *New Testament*, *Simon* Magus who bewitched the People of *Samaria*; *Elimas* the Sorcerer that was struck blind at *Paul*'s Rebuke; the *Pythoniss* who seems to have been possest of *consent*, because she was not *Tormented*, but got profit thereby; and such, as *confessed*, *shewed their Deeds*, and *burnt their Books* in *Ephesus*: Are undeniable instances hereof. Finally there are *prophesies* of False-Christs with *signs* and *wonders*, able to deceive, if possible, the very Elect: *General Councils* have made Canons against these VVretches: And the *experimental Knowledge* of injured Mortalls, with the publick Sentences which did vindicate the same; in subsequent Ages, are delivered down to us by the VVriters thereof.

Hence *Gulielmus Linensis*, a Popish *Doctor*, was justly put to Death, even tho' he dyed *penitent*, he having confessed VVitchcraft (whereof the written *Covenant* was found in his pocket) and that his share of the Devils Service was to *perswade* and *preach* that VVitches were only silly deluded Melancholians, whereby their *Confessions* were *no proof*. His success was such in this work of Darkness, that the People and Judges did *Slack*, and VVitches were vastly multiplyed in few Years. *vid.* *Pet. Mamorius de Lamiis*, who gives an account of the Process, from authentick Records.

Through these periods, it is observed, that Satan has oft shifted the *Scene*, and *turned* himself to many *Shapes*, as he found it most *accomodat* to his purposes; Whereby the manner of Apparition of Devils has been different, according to the *state of the times*. So *of old*, Satan appeared, and was worshiped, *as such* for deprecating his Mischief: which is said to be retained in some of the most barbarous places of the *Indies* to this day. In the *darkness of Popery* he transformed into a more *innocent Spirit* (that pretended to foretell Deaths, reveal the Defunct's will, discover occult murders, do other *friendly Offices*, &c. Which were subtile means of *inducing to him*, and *relying on him*) in the *Brownies* and *Phairies*. These were *then* very frequent, he having *impudence* thus to appear openly proportional to the *knowledge* of Men, over whom his reign was so *universal*: As it is related to continue in the more Northern Regions at this day. But since

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Light has broke out in our Horizon, he oftner works *externally* by Magicians and Witches, and *internally* on the lusts of Men, being *now mostly* restrained to his *own Sphere* or *Subjects*. Yet still he ensnares Severals, partly by *aping* the Ordinances of God; especially as they are corrupted in the Romish Church, whence so many *Monks* and *Nuns* as already prepared, have been found overcome. So he keeps with them publick *Assemblys in the Night* as of extraordinary *merit*: They formally *Worship* him by many *mimicall Gestures*: He *imprints* on them a kind of *Sacrament*: He inflicts *dreadfull Penances* on such as have not execute the commanded mischeifs: He teaches them *odd words* and *signes*, upon repeating of which *Exorcisms*, he (it being his *interest*) effectuats the *fore mentioned Operations* &c.

But though what he does *of himself*, or on the *Watch-word* or *Ensign* of Sorcerers or Witches, may, by *collection*, & *artful disposal* of *Matter* and *Form*; appear surprising: Yet he cannot work *against Nature*; or so apply *Actives* to *Passives*, as to overturn the *Course thereof*; since that is only competent to its *Author* who alon can do true Miracles, or know immediatly the thoughts of Man. Yea, after the *Fall* it is like, that even Satans *natural Powers* are come down below those of *good* Angels; and it is certain, that he is often *befooled* in his Designs by Providence: Notwithstanding whereof, he *retains* so much as (being permitted) is sufficient to bring about, by *unseen natural Means*, most of the extraordinary Appearances, that the Generality of the Learned have attributed to him: And particularly those in the subsequent Narrative: Many of which, tho' they are *beyond* the *Efficiency* of *Disease*, *Deceit*, or any *visible Cause*; yet may be the Effects of some such unperceived Means as follow.

There is no difficulty in Satan's *transmitting* in a short time an *Account* of Things which *are past*; since it's known he goes to and fro in the Earth: Yea, he may have *certainly fore told* some future Events, as *Alexander's* Success against *Persia*, &c. seing he understands and may steal the *great Revolutions* of the World, out of the *Prophets*; wherein they are so graphically circumscribed: Or he may discover his *own Resolutions* when-ever he is *commissioned* or *permitted* to execute a *Judgement*; which is the case of those whom, *for* seeking their Horoscops, God gives over to him to whom they do apply; and of *Saul*, who got so exact an account of his own End by the *Philistines*. But without some such aid, Satan can only guess like the Phisician by the *Urine*, or Politician by the *Crisis* of States: which is the Cause that most of his Oracles are *ambiguous*.

His *transporting* of Witches is elsewhere explained. He can raise *Hurricanes* (as appears in *Job*) which are known to carry over Tracts of Sea and Land, very *ponderous Bodys*: As it's easy for him to *Condense* a part of the Vechicle, which may *protect the Breathing* and *yet cutt the Air*; like the *Fence* of Dyvers, & *beak* of a Sloop: In which also he affects the magnifying of his *natural Powers* to be no less than of good Angels, who transported *Ezekiel* & *Elijah*. *His covering* of the Witches *from sight*, at some times, is also cleared, from the difficultys which seem to attend it, in another place: Where it appears very *possible* that his skill in *Opticks*, Reflection & *Refraction* of light &c. To which his *Power* & *Agility* as a *Spirit* Subministrats *Materials*: may effectuat all that can be proven to be true Fact in the Case.

But *Glanvil*, *More*, and others lay an other Hypothesis in *both*. *viz*. That the Soul is *separable* from the Body in some Cases, *without Death*: When by *God's Permission*, Satan, of the *parties Consent*, gets power over Soul and Body; whereby he may carry away the *one* from the Helm of the *other*, and sett it back again

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in it's Seat; *providing* the *vital* Spirits which make the Body a fit Receptacle, be well *preserved* by Ointments, that *constrict* the Pores, till the return of it's Guest: But Death ensues from a *Separation* when the Organs of the Body are rendred altogether unapt to obey the Soul's Commands in its Functions. If such an opinion could be true, Satan might *place* this captivated Spirit to *actuat* any shape he thinks fit. But there needs not so much *Metaphysicks* to unriddle the Appearances of Witches *as Beasts*, and the like: Since their *reall Persons* may be *covered* with a Vehicle; which by *dispersal of the Rays* comming therefrom, may fascinat the Eyes by the same *Impressions* that come from the *true sight* of *such*. His power of representing another thing in lieu of that which is truly present; is so certain that its found he may make up the Image of persons who are not present at all: For it is undoubted that *Spiritual* Devils may some times be permitted to represent by *Phantoms* the most innocent and praise worthy Men, as Devils *incarnat* do traduce them. He that accuseth the Brethren & imitats an Angel of *light*, may likeways *personat* the Children of *Light* by his Delusions: Yet the *Antecedents*, *Concomitants*, and *Consequents*, of such providences, do readily *propale* the *Falsehood*; so as the just man, for the most part, shall not perish in his *Righteousness*, and God, in his *ordinary* Providence, will not laugh at the trial of the Innocent; tho sometimes it fall out, that the Sons of *Belial* may swear away the life of an *innocent Naboth*.

There are several other things of less difficult Explication. Particularly, the Devil, or Witches might have been *heard* in converse by the Maid and not by Others; the same way as a *sound* directed through a *speaking Trumpet* does reach the Ears to which it is aimed without dispersing towards the intermediat, that are not in a streight line betwixt. The confederated Devil may, upon the Witches desire, *infuse poisonous* Humors, *extracted* from Herbs of the same *invisible Operation* with the *Steam* of *Mad dogs*, or the *Pestilence*; which being joyned to the rapidous course of the Patient's own *Spirits*, *Humors*, & *Blood*, that Satan, by *ingyring himself thereunto*, may, through the natural Means of *Pulsion*, set in *Carreer*: Can very well produce these *extraordinary Motions* which are mentioned in the *following Account*. They *delight* much in the Torture, or destruction, of *young Children*, in envy of CHRIST, who is tender of such *Little Ones*; and because the *Crime* is the *greater* the less the Patient has *offended*, or can *resist*. They use, or make others to repeat, *Scripture-Words*, for gaining *Credit*, or *alleviating* the Terror, or to *disgrace* the *Word*, by such a *Mock-use*; as they did in time of our SAVIOUR, and therefore their *Testimony* was *rebuted*. It's observable from many passages; that he *hastens*, sometimes, and *effects* their *Discovery*; by his *Malice* against their present *temporal Enjoyments*; *uncertainty* of their Continuance; and unsatiable *Desire* for their *full wreck*: Yet some of them, who, are *most maliciously bent*, he thinks fit to keep *here*, as *useful instruments*; and *Providence* permitts others to Live, that they, *wilfully filling up* their measure, under *Means*, may be finally *inexcusable*.

As to those whom, in *secret Judgement*, the Devil is permitted to torment; but, in *Mercy*, not to overcome: He may be carried thereunto from his design of *perverting* them by *Terror*, whereof he is at last disappointed: And *however*, the *defacing* of God's Image, and especially in despight of JESUS CHRIST Who honoured that Nature by assuming it, is his chief Delight: or he is *constrained* to make such stupendious Appearances against his *Will* (because he's most successful when he is least known) for a *visible* Testimony superadded to the greater Gospel-proofs, in *gross times*, that there are *Spirits* and a *Devil* to torment them, as it's observable that this was denied by Mr. *Aikenhead* (tho

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lie died in full Conviction thereof) at the time when these things fell out in the Country. Or *Providence* may tollerat such Sufferings, that they, tho' intended by the Devil for an instance of Malice, may, by their *Notoriety*, be a mean of moving the Discovery, and bringing to Justice these Miscreants, whom he made use of as his Instruments in them; and who may have lived long in Rebellion against Heaven, and Destruction of Mankind by Malefices of the *same sort*, which fell out in this Case. Finally, the aboundant & efficacious *Grace of God* is conspicuous in enabling a young Girl to resist the best laid Assaults of the evil One, to the utmost. As it is certain that he shews the greatest Malice in *Countries* where he is *hated* and *hateth* most; and the nearer his Reign be to an *End*.

There are many other profitable Instructions which arise from this wonderful Providence, for such Dispensations have their own *Language*, and the Man of Wisdom shall *see* God's Name.

The *usages* of Charmes for Men or Beasts, certain Characters, Words, Verses, and Spells: The *observation* of Times and Seasons as lucky, or unlucky: The *belief* of having Success by carrying about some Herbs, Plants, or branches of Trees: And many the like *Superstitions*; which can have no natural *Causality* on the effects desired, are the very *Rudiments* of Witchcraft, and an *implicite* application to the Devil for *virtue* which God has denyed to things: Whence they are to be abhorred as sinful in *themselves*, & introductory to *explicit* engadgment. So gross ignorance, prophane loosness, stupid forgetfulness of God, and neglect of his worship in Closets and Familys; Malice, Envy, Revenge, Discontent, oppressive fear of want, and distrustful anxiety of Spirit: Finally, a Libidinous temper, Curses, Imprecations, and sinful Curiosity, are to be evited as *paving the way* to the same mischief.

Let none enveigh against a *profession of Religion*, because some under that specious covert have been found in League with the *Devil*. It's because of the glorious Lustre and Excellency of our Holy Faith that these Miscreants *paint* themselves with it; whereby likewise they may be less *suspected*, and more *able*, subtily to *gain* on others, and do their Masters work: So it was no stain on the Apostles that *One* of their number had a Devil, was a Traitor and Cheat: Nor that Satan transformes himself into an *Angel* of Light, of design that the good ways of the Lord may be evill *spoken of*. Neither let us be under a *slavish Fear and Terror* of that Hellish Tribe, in truckling to their Humor, least they should do *Harm*, which savours of worshiping and paying homage to the *Devil*; whereas we ought only to make the *Lord of Hosts* our *Fear* and our *Dread*.

There is no just ground to reflect on *particular* Persons or Families upon accounts of such troubles. For no Man knoweth either Love or Hatred by *All* that's before them: All things come alike to *All*: And suppose ye that these were Sinners *above* all the *Galileans*, or above all that dwelt in *Jerusalem*? The infinite wise God may thus try Faith, Patience, and Christian Fortitude *Job* and our SAVIOUR were assaulted; and seven Devils cast out of *Mary Magdalen* a chosen Vessel unto the LORD. A Daughter of *Abraham* was bound by Satan for eighteen Years; and his Messenger was sent to Buffet the great *Apostle* of the Gentiles. The Woman of *Canaan*, *Math.* 15 c. 22 v. And the godly Man, *Mark* 9. 24 v. Had their *nearest Relations* vext in this manner: And blessed be the LORD that has left such instances in *Record* for Prevention of stumbling; though it must be confessed that the same *Charity* which judges well of all things, cannot but alter it's *remark* when it's *proof* is sufficiently *clear* from the

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way in which the person affected did formerly walk, since *presumptions* do always cede to *Truth*, and Lawiers have a Maxim, that in *re clara non est locus conjecturis*.

The *deaf Adder* that stopeathe Eares at the charming *voice* of a Sun-shine *Gospel*, will, one way or other, fall into the charmes of Satan or his *Instruments*. When Men *will have none* of CHRIST, he gives them up to their *own* Lusts, and power of their spiritual Adversarie; as, when *Israel* had *forsaken* their GOD, he gave them up to *worship the Hoast* of Heaven. But how much ought we to be humbled, and how great *Diligence* ought to be used in the discovery, of so many *hid Achans* that are in the Camp of *Israel*! And what holy *caution* and pious use of our Baptismal Covenant, ought we to improve as the best *Amulits* against being either *Entysed* with the snares of the Devil, or *affected* by the attempts of his Instruments. Yet *Poverty*, *Age*, or *Features*, of any; yea nor *simple fame*, or the like slender grounds, which could not be worthy of being represented to a *Magistrate*; ought not to move us to *Suspition*, much less to *defame*: Since *Charity* hopes all things, and we ought to do to others, as we would be done by.

These things may meet with a very *different Reception*, especially in this unhappy Age and place of the World, where *Brittain* may be termed the *unfortunate Island*; *Africk* never having been more Fertile in the production of *Monsters*: since it's observed that through *All* the Successions of Men, there was never *before*, any *Society* or collective Body of *Atheists* till these dregs of time; though there might have been here and there some *mishappen Births*. But wisdom is justified of her *Children*, and it's the Season for *Samson* to *awake* when *Delilah* gives the Alarum, that the *Philistens* are upon him. What *peace*! so long as the *Whoredomes* of *Jesebel* and her Witchcrafts are so many. But good things are hoped of our *Magistrats*, who have already so happily begun.

The Apostle said of *Job's* Tryalls, ye have heard of the patience of *Job*, and have seen the *End of the LORD*. So, in this Narrative, you have a deplorable Schem of this Maids formidable *Fitts*, and of the *powers of Darkness* that combin'd, not only for ruining her *Body*; but also for murdering her *Soul*. In the mean time, the Hearts of many were *bleeding* for her, and much Application was made to *GOD* in her behalf: Diverse *solemn Fasts* were observed, both in her Fathers *Family*, in *the* Parock, and throughout the bounds of the *Presbitry*, and *alse-where*, her Case was expresly minded in publick Addresses to the Throne of Grace: Till at length there was a *general Fast* Reilgiously keeped in most parts of the *Synod*, that GOD might give an effectual Check to Satan's Rage and Dominion in the Countrey. *Boasting of Prayers* is to be abhorred, yet it is our *Duty* with all *Gratitude*, to acknowledge GOD the *hearer*, and to proclame to the World, the *Excellency*, of them; upon this very occasion: For He hath not turned away his Ear from *Us*; it being the comfortable *Result* of this History, that the Girle hath been perfectly well for many Months: And is not this a *Brand pluked out of the fire*; and have not the *splintres wherewith* the Witches thought to have destroyed her, *recoiled* back upon some of themselves; and we wait execution of justice on the rest.

The *Devil could not* enter the Herd of Swine, nor touch one Hair of *Job's* Head, without *Permission* from Him *Whose Kingdom* ruleth *over all*: Whence, though our Enemies be very *Indefatigable* and *Invisible*, yet we are under the Conduct of the *Watch-man* Who neither slumbers nor sleeps; to *Whom* Darkness and Light are *both alike*; and *greater* is He that is in us, than he that is in the World: So that unless we willfully forfeit our *Privileges*, there is no fear

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of Counter-poising the wicked Ones, throwing down the *Gantlett* to all their Projects and Machinations; since neither Angels, Principalities, nor Powers, shall be able to *separat* us from the Love which is in CHRIST JESUS our LORD: And though no Argument can be drawn from any *Merit* in us; yet we'll *carry the day* against all the Militia of Hell under the *Captain of our Salvation*; since he will *rest in His own Love*. *Is this the manner of Men, O Lord God?* yet a little while the Devil and his Accomplices, will be *cast* into the bottomless Pit, and we *transported* into *Imanuel's* land.

It will not be a *natural sturdiness* of Temper, nor a *lifeless Mentioning* of the Name of GOD or CHRIST, that can shelter us from those Encounters, as appears in the Seven Sons of *Sceva*, *Acts* 19. but if the LORD be GOD then *follow Him*; for who is he that will harm you if ye be *Followers of that which is good*: he shall give His *Angels charge* of thee to keep thee in all *thy ways*: Great Peace have they that love *Thy Law*, and nothing shall offend them: And they wrestle most successfully against Principalities and Powers, who *fight* upon their *Knees*: As resisting of the Devil is the way to make him *flee* from us.

Yet whom Satan cannot obtain to be tortured hereafter he will (when permitted *torment* in this side of time; hence if *obsessions of Body* be so great a plague, how much worse is it to have him reign *Master* of our Souls: Wherefore let us watch and pray against every Sin, the least of which is more Pleasing to *Him* and worse to *Us* then the being so corporally tormented.

If Satan as a Spirit may insinuat himself into our *Humors*; no wonder that by having such advantage in the *temper*, he *can* influence the Flegmatick to Slouth, the Cholerick to Anger, the Sanguin to Lust and sinful pleasure, the Melancholick to Despair, &c. So they who think that they stand have need to *take heed* lest they *fall*: And to pray that the Watch-man of *Israel* may make *an Hedge* about them and their House, and about all that they have on every side

Let this not only rouze our *Diligence* and stir up our *Gratitude* for not being affected alike: But let it also recall our *Admiration* and *love* of JESUS CHRIST who hath freed our *Souls* and *Bodys* from the power and slavery of Satan: And finding our selves *too weak* for him in awarding these deluding pleasures which procure our being *deserted* by GOD, and are Satans *Bait*, to this fearfull Thraldom; let us run to the *Rock of Ages* for Protection and support, our *Sufficiency* being only of GOD.

Seing there are Witches and Devils, there are also *immortal Souls* of the first, since the last does *contract for them*, and takes such *Pains* to *retain* them: So that the *Seducers* tho they have a judicial *blindness* in their *reason*, are hereby rendred inexcusable by *very sense*. *Evill Books* which stirr up and entertain curious *Fantasies*, that are seldom accompanyed with accurat *Judgments* (the Soul's looking *outward* diverting it from dyving *into* the deepths of truth) are to be restrained: And also such ridiculous Pamphlets as no doubt by the Instigation of Satan, have lately been sent abroad, of design to frustrat any good use which might be made of such rare Providences as are contained in the ensueing Narrative, by *Forging Others*, or *Disguising this*.

This has been delayed so long to be published; partly, that there might be the more *narrow Scrutiny* made into the Matters of Fact; and partly, by some *Accidents* which did retard it. In it the Reader is not to expect any Accuracy of Stile; because the designed *Curtness* did occasion the wraping up of *much Matter* in *small Bounds*; and the punctual Exactness of *Truth* in every Circumstance was the *chief* Aim: So that other Defects ought to be the less quarrelled.

THE NARRATIVE

IT was about the end of *August* One Thousand Six Hundred Ninety Six, when the first Rise and Occasion was given, (so far as can be known) to these strange Things that befel the Child, who is the Subject of this Narrative; and the Manner was thus.

Christian Shaw, Daughter to a Gentleman of good account called *John Shaw* Laird of *Bargarran*, in the Parish of *Erskine*, within the Shire of *Renfrew*; a smart lively Girl, and of good Inclinations, about Eleven Years of Age, perceiving one of the Maids of the House, named *Catharine Campbel*, to steal and drink some Milk, she *told* her Mother of it; whereupon the Maid *Campbel* (being a young Woman of a *proud* and *revengeful* Temper, and much addicted to *Cursing* and *Swearing* upon any light occasion, and otherways given to *Purloining*) did, in a most hideous Rage, thrice imprecat the *Curse of GOD* upon the Child; and at the same time did thrice utter these horrid words, *The Devil harle* (that is *Drag*) *your Soul thorow Hell*. This past upon *Munday*, *August* 17, in presence of several Witnesses, who afterwards made Evidence of it.

Upon the *Friday* following, being *August* 21. about Sun-rising, one *Agnes Naismith*, an old Widow woman, ignorant, and of a *Malicious* Disposition, addicted to *Threatnings*, (which sometimes were observed to be followed with fatal Events) who lived in the Neighbourhood, came to *Bargarran*'s House; where finding the Child *Christian* in the Court with her younger Sister, she ask'd *How the Lady and young Child did*, and how old the young sucking Child was; to which *Christian* replied, *What do I know?* Then *Agnes* ask'd, *How her self did, and how old she was*; to which she answered, that *she was Well, and in the eleventh Year of her Age*.

On the *Saturday*-night thereafter, being *August* 22. the Child went to Bed in good health; but so soon as she fell asleep, began to struggle and cry, *Help, Help*: And then suddenly got up, and did fly over the top of a Resting-bed, where she was lying (her Father, Mother, and others being in the Room, and to their great Astonishment and Admiration) with such violence, that probably her Brains had been dasht out, if a Woman, providentially standing by, and supported by a Door at her back, had not broke the force of the Childs motion; who being laid in another Bed, remained stiff and insensible as if she had been dead, for the space of half an Hour; but for Fourty eight Hours thereafter could not sleep, crying out of violent Pains thorow her whole Body, and no sooner began to sleep or turn drowsie but seemed greatly affrighted, crying still *Help, Help*.

After

After this the pain fixt in her left side, and her Body was often so bent and rigid, as she stood like a Bow on her Feet and Neck at once, and continued without power of Speech, except in some very short intervals, for eight days; during which time, she had scarce half an Hours intermission together, the Fits taking her suddenly, and both coming on and going off by a Swerff or short deliquium, but appeared perfectly well and sensible in the *Intervals*.

But about the midle of *September*, her fits returned in a manner *differing* from the former, wherein she seemed to fight and struggle with some thing that was invisible to spectators, and her Action appear'd as if she had been defending her self from some who were assaulting or attempting to hurt her, and this with such force that four strong Men were scarcely able to hold her; and when any of the People present toucht any part of her Body, she did cry and shreek with such vehemence, as if they had been killing her, but could not speak

Before this time as she was seized with the trouble, her Parents had called for Physicians from *Paisley*, *viz.* *John Whyte* Apothecary a near relation, and afterwards Doctor *Johnstoun*; who took Blood and applyed several things both at first, and afterward, without any discernable Effect upon the Patient either to the better or worse: And she all the while of these Later Fitts being afflicted with extraordinary risings and fallings of her Belly; like the motion of a pair of Bellows! and such strange movings of her Body as made the whole Bed she lay on shake; to the great consternation of Spectators.

Some dayes thereafter was an alteration in her Fitts, so far, that she got speaking, during the time of them; and while she was in the fits, fell a crying, that *Katharine Campbel and Agnes Naismith were cutting her side, and other parts of her Body*; Which parts were in that time violently Tormented And when the fit was over she still averred, *that she had seen the same Persons doing the same things* which she complained of while under the fit (it being remarkable that in the intervals she was still as well and sensible as ever) and would not believe but that others present saw them as well as she! In this condition she continued with some but not very considerable variation either as to the fits or Intervals, for the space of a Moneth.

After which time she was conveighed to *Glasgow*, where Doctor *Birsbane* a Phisician deservedly famed for skill and experience, did by *Mr. Henry Marshell* Apothecary apply Medicine to her; after which having stayed in *Glasgow* about ten dayes and being brought home to the Countrey, she had near a fortnights intermission *But* then her fits returned, with this difference, that she knew when they were acoming by a pain in her left side, which she felt before they came, & in these Fits her Throat was prodigiously drawn down toward her breast, & her Tongue back into her Throat; her whole Body becoming stiff and extended as a Dead Corpse without sense or motion: And some times her Tongue was drawn out of her Mouth over her Chin to a wonderful length, her Teeth setting together so fast upon it, that those present were forced to thrust something betwixt her Teeth for saving her Tongue. And it was oft observed that her Tongue was thus tortured when she essayed to *Pray*. And in this condition she was for some time, with sensible intervals wherein she had perfect health, and could give a full account of what she was heard to utter while in the Fit. For several dayes these Fits continuing with some variation, her Parents resolved to return her to *Glasgow*, that she might there have the more conveniency of being under the Doctors Oversight and Care, for further discerning the nature of her trouble and making use of the most probable natural remedies. But being on her way

in her Grand-mothers house at *Northbar*, she did thrust or spit out of her mouth parcels of Hair, some curled, some plaited, some knotted, of different colours, and in large quantities: And thus she continued to do with several swooning Fits every quarter of an hour, both in her passage to *Glasgow*, which was by Boat on *Thursday*, Nov. twelfth: And when she was in *Glasgow* for the space of three dayes ensuing she put as frequently hair out of her Mouth and in as great quantities, as the first day; her former swerfing or swooning Fits recurring as often the day as before: And thereafter from *Munday* to *Thursday* following she put out of her Mouth Coal-cinders about the bignes of Chasnuts, some whereof were so hot that they could scarcely be handled, one of which *Dr. Birsbane* being by her when she took it out of her Mouth, felt to be hoter then the heat of any ones body could make it. Then for the space of two days in these swooning Fits, as formerly, there was put or taken out of her Mouth straw in great quantities, tho but one straw at once folded up together which when put out returned to its length, was found to be both long and broad, and it was remarkable that in one of them there was a little small pin found. Thereafter were put out of her mouth bones of various sorts and sizes, as bones of Fowls and small bones of the heads of Kine, and then some small sticks of Candle fir (a sort of Fir in this Countrey that burns like Candle) one of which was about three or four inches long; which, when any upon sight of either bones or sticks took hold of to pull out, they found them either held by her Teeth set together upon them, or forcibly drawn back into her Throat; particularly *Archibald Bennetie* of *Kellie* your ger observing a bone in her mouth like a duck shank or leg bone, and essaying to pull it out, he declared he found something drawing it back into her throat; so that it took a deal of force to get it pulled out. It is to be noticed that she never knew how these things were brought into her mouth, and when they were got out of it she immediatly recovered of her fit, for that time. After this she put out of her mouth some quantity of unclean Hay intermixed with dung, as if it had been taken out of a Dunghil; which was so stinking that the Damsel could not endure the nauseating taste and vile relish those things produced in her mouth, which did necessitate her still to rinse her mouth with Water after the putting of that sort of matter out of it. Then for more then a days space she put out of her Mouth a number of wild fowls feathers; after that a gravel-stone which in the judgment of beholders had been passed by some person in a gravel-fit; with some small whitestones and a whole nut gall (wherewith they use to dye and to make Ink) together with lumps of Candle grease, and egg-shells; during which time she continued as formerly in her recurring swooning fits with some intervals wherein she was in perfect health: Of all which there were many Famous Witnesses who in that City (besides those who were continually with her) came frequently to visit her.

It is to be noticed, that the Damsel at the time of the putting out of her Mouth the Sticks abovementioned being in Bed about eight a Clock at Night, told, she was to be grievously tormented with sore Fits that Night, which accordingly fell out; For a little thereafter, she fell into a long swoon, wherein she had no use of any Sense, either of Hearing, Seeing, or Feeling; so as the oft times the Beholders called to her with a loud Voice, moving also and tossing her Body, all was to no purpose, and when the Laird of *Kelly* younger abovenamed, to try the Truth, gave her a very sore pinsh in the Arm, she had no Sense of it in the time After recovery from the Swoon, but yet continuing

ſing in the Fit) ſhe fell a reaſoning with *Katharine Campbel* after this manner, " Thou ſit'ſt there with a ſtick in thy Hand to put in my Mouth; but thorow " GOD's ſtrength thou ſhalt not get leave: Thou art permitted to Torment " me; but I truſt in GOD, thou ſhalt never get my Life, tho it's my Life " thou deſign'ſt *And at that me calling for a Bible and Candle, ſaid,* come near " me *Katie*, and I'll let thee ſee where a godly Man was given up to Satan to be " Tormented: But GOD keeped his Life in His own Hand: And ſo I truſt in " GOD, thou ſhalt never get my Life, and all that thou ſhalt be permitted to " do unto me, I hope thorow GOD's mercy, ſhall turn to my Advantage. This " Man was Rob'd of All, and Tormented in Body, and had nothing left him " but an ill Wife. Come near me *Katie*, and I'll read it to thee. " *And reading* " *that Paſſage of* Job, *when ſhe came to the place where his Wife ſaid to him* Curſe " GOD and Die, *the Damſel conſidering theſe words a little, ſaid?* O! what a " Wife has this been, that bids her Good man *Curſe God and Die*? ſhe who " ſhould have been a comfort to him in his Trouble, turned a Croſs to him? *Then after reading of the Chapter to the end, ſhe look'd towards the foot of the Bed and ſaid.* " Now *Katie*, what think'ſt thou of that? Thou ſeeſt, for all the power " the Devil got over *Job* he gain'd no Ground on him; and I hope he ſhall " gain as little on me. Thy Maſter the Devil deceives thee, he is a bad Maſter " whom thou ſerv'ſt, and thou ſhalt find it to thy Smart, except thou Re- " pent before thou Die; there is no Repentance to be had after Death: I'll " let thee ſee *Katie*, there is no Repentance in Hell, *And turning over the Book* " *ing* Luke 16. Chap. *near the latter end thereof, and reading the ſame over, ſaid,* " *Katie* thou ſeeſt there is no Repentance in Hell, for this Rich Man beſought " *Abraham* to teſtify to his five Brethren, that they come not to the place of " Torment, where he was; but Repent & turn to the Lord, for there is no win- " ning out if once they come there; now *Katie*, thou hear'ſt this, what think'ſt " thou of it? I'll let thee hear another place which ſhould pierce thy very " Heart, *And turning over the Book, ſaid ſhe would read about* Adam *and* Eve's *ſin,* " thou know'ſt *Katie*, the Serpent the Devil thy Maſter, thought to have ruined " Mankind at the beginning, his Malice was ſo great at that bleſſed State " wherein they were then, ſeeing himſelf caſt down from all hopes of Mercy, " uſed all means poſſible for him to ſubvert their happineſs, by ſuggeſting to " them fair Promiſes, and a proſpect of Advantage to them before their Eyes, " in cauſing them Eat of that forbidden Fruit; whereby they and their Poſterity " fell from that Eſtate wherein they were; & were made Subject to GOD's Curſe " for ever: But GOD did not ſuffer them to be at this ſtance, but of his infinit " Mercy ſhewed to them a better way, whereby they might have Life Eternal " by revealing to them that bleſſed Promiſe, *the Seed of the Woman ſhall bruiſe* " *the Head of the Serpent.* Now *Katie*, what think'ſt thou of that Promiſe? But " have mind of this, thou'lt get no Advantage by it, it's not made to thee, " who haſt renounced GOD's Service, and taken on with the Devil; thou art " his Slave, thou deny'ſt this; but I know thou art a Hypocrite; for I re- " member, when thou waſt in my Mother's Houſe, thou bought a Catechiſm, " upon a pretence to learn to Read, to cloak thy Sin: Wil't thou hear me, " know'ſt thou the reward of the Hypocrit? I'll let thee hear it; I remember " Mr. *William Gillies* was Lecturing the other day upon the 23 of *Matthew*, " where many a wo is pronounced againſt the Hypocrit, Eight dreadful Wo's " here, *Katie*, and ſome of them belongs to thee: But I'll tell thee more, know'ſt " thou the reward of the Hypocrit: they ſhall be caſt into the Lake that burns

" for

" for ever, that's their Portion; do'ſt thou hear this now? Thou turn'ſt thy " Back to me, when I am telling the truth; if I were reading a Story-Book, " or telling a Tale to thee, thou would'ſt hear that. Remember it will be thy " Portion too, if thou do not Repent, and Confeſs, and ſeek Mercy. *Again turning over the Book, ſhe read about* Pilat *ſaying,* " *Pilat* he made a ſhew of " cleanſing himſelf of CHRISTS Blood, he waſh'd his Hands and declar'd " himſelf innocent; but for all his waſhing, he had a foul Heart; he would " not loſs his Office for the ſaving of CHRISTS Life: He knew well enough " that CHRIST was an innocent Perſon; but he preferred his Honour before " CHRIST; Therefore to pleaſe the *Jewis*, and to quench the ſtrugling in his " Conſcience, he waſht his Hands, and then delivered CHRIST to be Crucified " by them. Thus ſhe continued for more then two Hours ſpace; reaſoning at this Rate, and exhorting her to Repent, quoting many places of Scripture thorow the Revelation and Evangeliſts. And when any offered to pull her Bible from her, ſhe uttered horrid Schreeks and Out-crys, ſaying, *She would never part with her Bible as long as ſhe liv'd, ſhe would keep it in ſpight of all the Devils.*

Before we paſs from this, it will be needful to give the Reader advertiſement of ſome things. 1. That while ſhe call'd for her Bible and a Candle ſhe neither heard nor ſaw any of thoſe Perſons who were then actually and diſcernably preſent in the Room with her, and that *Katharine Campbel* to whom ſhe directed her ſpeech was not diſcernably preſent to any other Body but her ſelf. And that pinch ſhe got in her inſenſible fit, ſhe found and complain'd of the pain of it in that part afterward, but knew not how ſhe came by it, nor blamed any of her tormentors for it. 2. That theſe words ſet down as ſpoken by her, were the very ſame both for words and order as nearly as they could be gathered and remembred by the hearers, without any addition of their own. 3. That altho ſhe was a Girle of a pregnant Spirit above her age, and had much of the Scriptures, and withal had pretty good underſtanding, above what might be expected of one of her years, of the foundamental principles of Religion taught in the Catechiſms; yet we doubt not but in ſo ſtrong a Combat, the Lord did by His good Spirit graciouſly affoord her a more then ordinary meaſure of Aſſiſtance, both now and at other times in the like debates.

Sometime after the putting out of her mouth the traſh above-mentioned ſhe fell into extreamly violent fits, with lamentable crying; four Perſons being hardly able to withhold her from Climbing up the Walls of the Chamber, or from otherwayes doing her ſelf hurt, mean time having no power of ſpeech, while in the fit, but her back and the reſt of her Body grievouſly pained: In which condition ſhe continued four or five days with the uſual ſenſible intervals: In which ſhe declared, that four men *Alexander* and *James Anderſons*, and other two (of whom ſhe gave particular and exact marks, but knew not their names) were tormenting her. It was obſerv'd that many of theſe ſhe named were known to be Perſons of ill fame, as theſe two Perſons laſt nam'd were: It is alſo remarkable, that for ſome time ſhe knew not the name of the ſaid *Alexander Anderſon*, till one day he came a begging to the door of the houſe, where the Damſel was, whom ſhe ſeeing, immediatly cryed out, *that was he whom ſhe had ſeen among the Crew.*

After this ſhe fell into other Fits, wherein ſhe ſaw the forenamed Perſons with ſome others, and heard and ſaw ſeveral things that paſt among them. Particularly, ſhe ſometimes told when ſhe was to take the fits, how often ſhe would take

take them, (which fell out accordingly) with some discourses that were among them relating to her self and others.

About the eight of *December*, being brought home again from *Glasgow*, and having had six or seven days respite from her fits, she afterwards fell into fright ful and terrifying fits: The occasion whereof she declar'd to be, her seeing the Devil in prodigious and horrid shapes, threatning to devour her, and then she would fall dead and stiff with all the parts of her Body distended and stretcht out as a Corpse without sense or motion; which fits as they came suddenly on without her knowledge, so she did as suddenly recover and grew perfectly well; and they usually came on when she essayed to pray. In which time also other fits took her more sensibly, she knowing when they were a coming, how long they would continue, and when they would return: In which fits her eyes strangely altered, and turned in her head to the admiration of Spectators, with a continual painful working about her heart, sometimes her joynts were complicat and drawn together, and her fore head drawn forcibly about toward her shoulders; which fits she took by first falling into a Swoon, and after her violent fits instantly recovered after the same manner. During this time the fits altered again as to their times of coming and continuance; in which she sometimes endeavoured to bite her own fingers, or any thing else that came in her way, also when she saw the Persons before mentioned, one or two of them about her, pointing them out to the Persons present with her, tho by them unseen, and sometime declaring that she had hold of them by their Cloaths. Particularly, *December*, 17, She being in a sore fit she cry'd out of several Persons that were tormenting her; and being in the bed, grasped with her hands towards the foot of it, and cry'd out, that she had got a grip of the sleeves of one *J. P's.* Jerkin (or Jacket) which was, as she said, duddie, (that is ragged or tattered) at the elbows: And in that very instant the Damsels Mother and Aunt heard the sound of the rending or tearing of a Cloth, but saw or felt nothing, only found in each of the Damsels hands which were fast closed when they got them opened, a bit of red Cloth, looking as torn off a Garment; of which kind of Cloath there had been none in the Room at that time nor in the whole house nor near it, that any knew of. Another particular she told was, that there was such an one among the Crew going to pluck her Tongue, which thereupon was instantly pull'd back into her Throat, she lying dumb for a considerable space. Sometimes upon her recovery from her Fits she told that she heard several things spoken and communed among her afflicters, but durst not make them known; because they threatned to Torment her after this, or the other manner, if she should make them known, and accordingly when by her Mother or others she was prevailed with to begin to tell them instantly the Torment fell out as was threatned. She told further that her Tormentors appear'd to her usually with Lights and strange sorts of Candles, which were frightful to her to look to.

Thus she continued till the first of *January*, 1697. not only in the fits foremention'd with some alterations, but fell likewayes by swooning into light Fits, wherein she continued for two or three hours together, sometimes more, sometimes less, with very short intervals, in which Fits she did not much complain of pain; but had a great palpitation in her breast, and sometimes in other parts of her Body strange and unaccountable motions, which continued in a greater or lesser degree during the whole time of the Fit, wherein she was somewhat light, and not so solid in her mind as at other times; tho in the Inter-

vals

vals of these, as of all other fits she was sufficiently composed; which Fits, as all the rest, came suddenly on and went as suddenly off by a Swoun or Sweat.

Before we proceed further in the Relation, let it be noticed first, that the foresaid *Agnes Naismith*, being brought by the Parents a second time to see the Damsel, did (tho not desired) pray for her, *viz. that the Lord God of Heaven and Earth might send the Damsel her health and try out the Verity*: After which, the Damsel declared that tho the said *Agnes* had formerly been very troublesome to her; yet, from that time forth she did not more appear to her, as her Tormentor; but upon the contrary, as she apprehended, defending her from the fury of the rest. 2. It is further here to be noticed that the fore nam'd *Katharine Campbel*, could by no means be prevailed with to pray for the Damsel, but upon the contrary when desired by some, cursed them and all the Family of *Bargarren*, and in particular the Damsel and all that belonged to her, withal adding this grievous Imprecation; *The Devil father never grow better, nor any concern'd in her, be in a better condition then she was in, for what they had done to her.* Which words she spoke before diverse famous Witnesses. 3. That *Bargarren* having prevailed with the Sheriff depute of the Shire, to imprison the said *Katharine Campbel*; she from the time of her Imprisonment, never appear'd to the Damsel (tho formerly she had ordinarly appear'd as one of her most violent Tormentors) except once or twice, at which times it was found upon after enquiry, that she was not in the Tolbooth but either in the Jaylors house, or had liberty granted her to go out to Church. 4. That at the time when the Damsel did put out her mouth the hair and other trash as above related, *Katrine Campbel* being taken into custody, there was found in her pocket a ball of hair of several colours, which was afterwards thrown into the Fire, after which time the Damsel put no more hair out of her Mouth. And it is to be further noticed that she said, she heard amongst the Crew, when tormenting her, that *Katharine Campbel* made that ball of hair found in her pocket, of the hair of the Damsels head which had been cut when her trouble began, and which did agree in colour, &c. when compared.

Upon the first day of *January* about ten a clock at night, she fell by swoonings into Fits differing from the former, in that, after the swooning fit was over, she lay quiet, as if she had been dead, making no motion at all with her Body in the Bed; yet at the same time these present heard her mournful talking, but with a low and hardly audible Voice, and repeating several Storys in meeter which they thought to be Expressions of the Rise and Progress of her own trouble; and thus she continued (still withall naming some of the forementioned Persons) till her Parents and others offered to Rouze her, by Touching & Moving her Body. Whereupon instantly she uttered horrid Schreeks, and cry'd as if she had been pierced thorow with Swords, and assaulted for her Life. After which she fell a Singing, Leaping, and Dancing for a long time, laughing with a loud Voice, in an unusual manner, tearing down the Hangings of the Bed, & pulling off her Head-cloaths and Neck cloaths; in which Extravagances she was acted with such Force and Strength, that her Father and Minister tho joyning their whole Strength together, could not get her Dancing and Leaping hindered. But after Prayer, the Minister finding her Composed, enquired if she remembered what she had done in time of the Fit; to which she reply'd, That she distinctly remembered her miscariages, and in speciall her Singing & Dancing, saying withall, that the Witches enclosing her in a Ring (or Circle) and Dancing and Singing about her, was the occasion of her Dancing, which

she

ſhe then gladly perfotmed with the reſt. For ſome days after ſhe had Fits much after this manner, with ſome variation: In one of which fits, as ſhe was tearing off her Head-dreſs cloaths, her Parents reſolving to ſee what would be the event, did make no hinderance to her: Whereupon ſhe ſtript her ſelf of all her Cloaths that were upon her, not leaving ſo much as her Smock upon her Body, if that had been permitted.

After this toward or about the Eleventh of *January*, ſhe fell into Fits different from the former, in which ſhe was ſuddenly carried away from her Parents and others that were about her, with a ſudden flight, and in the firſt of theſe (to their great amazement) thorow the Chamber and Hall down a long winding Stair toward the Power-gate, with ſuch a ſwift and unaccountable motion, that it was not in the power of any to prevent her, her Feet not touching the Ground, ſo far as any of the Beholders could diſcern, being heard in her motion to laugh in an unuſual manner: But by Divine Providence the Gate being ſhut, her motion was ſtopt till ſuch time as ſome of the Family could overtake her, who endeavouring to carry her back, found her inſtantly fall as one dead and become ſtiff: (in which poſture, being brought back to the Chamber, ſhe lay for a conſiderable ſpace. And being recover'd ſhe did declare, that there were about the number of Nine or Ten Perſons who had carried her away in a Shue (as ſhe term'd it, that is as one ſwinging upon a Rope) wherein ſhe then took pleaſure, her Feet not at all touching the Ground, to her apprehenſion.

The Night following ſhe was ſuddenly carried away, as before, from her Parents and others who were about her, thorow the Chamber and Hall, and ſixteen large ſteps of a winding Stair up, toward the top of the Houſe! where ſhe met with Apparitions of ſtrange and unaccountable things, but was carried down again as ſhe thought in a ſhue or ſwing, aſſerting after her recovery that ſhe met upon the Stair the number of ſix Women and four Men, and by them was carried toward the Gate again, where accordingly ſhe was found, and was carried up as formerly, all the parts of her Body diſtended and ſtiff as one Dead; in which poſture ſhe lay for ſometime, and when recovering, declared, that both now and formerly, ſhe had endeavoured to open the Gate, and that thoſe ſhe ſaw about her were helping her, with a deſign to get her to the Court to drown her in the Well, which ſhe ſaid ſhe heard them ſaying among themſelves, they intended to do, and that then the World would believe ſhe had deſtroyed her ſelf. It is obſervable that (theſe kind of Fits continuing with her for ſome few dayes) in one of them ſhe was ſtop't at the Gate, and found in the forementionꝰd Poſture which was neither Locked nor Barred; yet could they not get it oppened tho both ſhe and her Tormentors endeavoured it.

Before we proceed in the Relation, it is not to be omitted that as ſoon as the Damſels affliction was obſerv'd to be extraordinary and preternatural there were (beſides times formerly ſet a part in a more private way) at the deſire of the Parents and Miniſter, and by the Presbytries ſpecial order, a Miniſter or two appointed to meet one day of every Week at the houſe of *Bargarran* to joyn with the Family, the Miniſter of the Pariſh and other good Chriſtians of the Neighbourhood, in Faſting and Praying which uſually fell to be on the *Tueſday*. And upon the 12th of *January* it being the turn of Mr. *Patrick Simpſon* a Neighbour Miniſter to be there; when he came to the houſe he found both the Miniſter of the Pariſh, and the Brother who was to joyn with him had been neceſſarly withdrawn; yet reſolved to carry on the Work with aſſiſtance of three Elders, ſome other good People being preſent. When he firſt ſaw the Dam-

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ſel after he came to the houſe, he found her under ſome leſſer Fits which came and went off quickly, and when Prayer began ſhe was quiet and ſober during the ſame, but in time of ſinging the 93 *Pſalm*, ſhe fell into a ſore Fit, of greater continuance, firſt Laughing then making ſome ſound like Singing, after that pulling her head Cloaths down over her Face, and laſtly turning ſo outragious in her Motions that her Father could ſcarce get her holden with his whole ſtrength, but behoved to ly over upon the Bed with her in his Arms untill the Fit abated: After her Recovery from which, ſhe was quiet and compoſed all the time of Prayer, and while the Miniſter Lectur'd on *Mark*, 9. from 14 *verſe* and forward to *verſe*, 30. was very Attentive, carefully looking in her Bible the Scriptures quoted, ſo all along both in time of Prayer and Singing untill the whole Religious exerciſe was ended, and ſome Refreſhment after the ſame taken, at the end of which ſhe told the Company, ſhe had ſomething to tell which ſhe heard ſome among her Tormenters ſaying, which ſhe durſt not reveal; But the Miniſter and her Mother urging her to be free and not to obey the Devil, ſhe ſaid, ſhe would tell it her Mother in her ear. Then coming from the other ſide of the Table, and placing her ſelf betwixt her Mother and Aunt ſhe began to Whiſper in her Mothers Ear; but before ſhe got a Sentence fully pronounced, ſhe fell into a violent Fit, ſo as her Mother and thoſe next her could ſcarcely hold her till the Violence thereof began to abate, and then her Mother told that ſhe was ſpeaking of a Meeting and a Feaſt they had ſpoken of in the Orchard of *Bargarran*, but was able to ſay no more, and after Recovery, her Mother deſiring her to tell the reſt of it, and ſhe beginning to Whiſper in her Ear, as before, could not get one word uttered till ſhe was ſeiz'd again of a Fit, as violent as the former. Whereupon the Miniſter perceiving her Torment, deſired them to forbear any further troubling of her. Notice, that accordingly there was a Feaſt and Meeting in that Orchard about that time, of the Crew, acknowledged, and declared afterwards by three of them that Confeſſed themſelves to have been there. *viz. Elizabeth Anderſon, James* and *Thomas Lindſays*, they not knowing what either the Damſel had Spoken, or one of them what another had Confeſt relating thereunto.

About or within a little after this time, ſhe was again ſuddenly carried from them in the former manner down a Stair, which goes off from a Corner of the Chamber to a Celler juſt below it, where her Brother & Siſter were providentially gone down a little before, to bring ſome drink from the Celler, and already near the ſtair Foot, with a lighted Candle, which ſhe ſoon put out: But they crying and holding her by the Head-Cloaths, quickly diſcovered to the reſt where ſhe was. Upon which *Mr. Alexander King* Miniſter at *Bonnil* (being then in the Chamber) made haſte down Stairs where he found her, but her Brother and Siſter had loſt hold of her, ſhe having looſed her Head-cloaths and let them go; yet *Mr. King* having caught hold of her, keept her in his Arms till a lighted Candle was brought, and endeavoring to bring her up Stairs, did declare that he found ſomething forcibly drawing her downwards, but he ſtill keeping his hold, ſhe fell ſtiff as one Dead upon the Stair & was in this Poſture carried up and laid in Bed, where ſhe lay a conſiderable ſpace. And when recovered of the Fit, ſhe declar'd that the Occaſion of her going down Stairs with ſuch Force, was, that the Crew had ſuggeſted to her while ſhe was in the light Fits, that the Devil was in the Meal Chiſt in the Celler, and that if ſhe would go down and put out the Candle, ſhe might force him out of it. Notice here firſt, that when ſome Fits of this kind were ready to ſeize her, ſhe ſometimes

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gave advertiſement thereof to theſe preſent with her, giving ſigns of her earneſt deſire of their help to prevent her Motion, which uſually proved to be of good effect, wherein the Divine *Mercy* toward her is much to be obſerved. 2. It is alſo to be noticed, that about the time when ſhe was in theſe flying Fits, ſhe uſed to utter horrid Screeks and Out-cryes not like thoſe of Rational Creatures: In which time there were heard for three nights together, when the Damſel was a ſleep in Bed, Schreeks and Out-cryes of the ſame kind in the Court, when none of the Family was without Doors, to the great affrightment of thoſe who heard them, being that they exactly reſembled the Crys and Skreeks the Damſel uſed to utter in the Fits; who afterwards in one of her Intervals hearing ſome of the Family talking of thoſe Crys and Skreeks, and alledging they had been uttered by ſome wild beaſt or other, ſaid to them, they were miſtaken, for it was *Margaret*. And two others of the name of *Margaret* call'd by the Crew their *Maggi's*, had uttered theſe Skreeks, the Devil having promiſed to them at that time to carry her out of the Houſe to them, that they might drown her in the Well, where there were eighteen more waiting for her.

After this ſhe fell into freting and angry fits (as ſhe term'd them) in which her humor was croſs to all that thoſe about her could either ſay or do, nothing proving to her ſatisfaction, but every thing diſpleaſing, (her former fits withal now and then ſeizing her) but when reſtored to a right compoſure of mind, ſhe declar'd that her Tormentors about her did ſtill ſuggeſt to her and adviſe her to go to ſuch and ſuch remote places of the houſe her alone, and bring with her a Snood (which is a head-lace ſuch as Women ty up their hair with) or a Cravat or ſome ſuch thing, promiſing her rough Almonds or ſome kinds of ſweetmeats which they nam'd to her, and for that end, to bring her apron with her to hold them in, and accordingly when ſeiz'd again with fits of this nature did reſolutly endeavour to repair to theſe places, having a Snood or Cravat and her Apron with her, and would ſuffer none to be in her Company, which put her Parents and others to a neceſſity of detaining her by force, and ſhe being thus prevented, uttered hideous ſchreeks and outcryes, of which in this ſort of fits ſhe was ſeldom free.

Thurſday, January 14*th*. at night a young Laſs or Girle appear'd to her with a ſcabbed face amongſt the reſt of her Tormentors, telling her ſhe was to come to the houſe to morrow about ten a clock, and forbidding her to reveal it.

The next day being *January* 15*th*, in the afternoon the Damſel earneſtly enquired at her Mother and the reſt of the Family what Beggars had come to the gate that day, and of what Countenance and viſage they were? But the Family not knowing her deſign in ſuch a queſtion, gave no heed unto it; yet ſhe ſtill inſiſting and being in Company with her Mother and another Gentlewoman, about four a clock at night ſaid to them, ſhe thought ſhe might tell them ſomewhat (the time being now paſt) ſhe was forbidden to reveal; but beginning to tell ſhe preſently fell a crying that ſhe was tormented and pricked thorow her whole Body; yet recovering from the fit, went on and told it; the thing ſhe had to reveal was, that a ſcabbed fac'd Laſs appear'd to her yeſter-night and was to be at the gate this day at ten a Clock. Whereupon the Servants being enquired at, what ſort of Beggers had been there that day, did declare among others, there had been a begger *Wife* at the door and a younger *Woman* or Laſs with her who had Scabs on her Face, and receiv'd their Alms.

January, 16*th*, and 17*th*, When recovered of her ſwooning Fits, ſhe put out of her Mouth a great number of Pins, which ſhe declared *J.*

had forc'd into her Mouth, and a Gentlewoman who had been always one of her most violent Tormentors.

January, 21. Her Fits altered again, after this manner, she would fall in them with heavy Sighs and Groans and hideous Outcryes, telling those about her that Cats, Ravens, Owles and Horses were destroying and pressing her down in the Bed: And at the same time her Mother and another Gentlewoman, being in the Room with her, did declare that immediatly after they had taken the Girle out of her Bed in this condition, they did see something moving under the Bed-cloaths as big as a Cat.

The same Morning in the interval of her Fits, she said, she heard her Tormentors Whisper amongst themselves, and suggest to one another, (naming *J. P.* the *Andersons* and others) that the Devil had promised and engaged to them, to carry her over the Hall Window, to the end they might Drown her in the Well which was in the court; and then they said the World would believe she had destroyed her self; and the same day and several dayes thereafter, when seiz'd with her Grievous Fits, did attempt with such force to get her self over that Window, that Spectators could scarce with their whole strength prevent her.

About this time, nothing in the World would so discompose her as Religious Exercises, if there were any discourses of God or Christ, or any of the things which are not seen and are Eternal, she would be cast into grievous Agonies; and when she essayed in her light Fits, to read any portion of the Scriptures, repeat any of the Psalms, or answer any Questions of our Catechisms (which she could do exactly well at other times) she was suddenly struck Dumb and lay as one stiff Dead, her Mouth opened to such a Wideness that her Jaw appeard to be out of joynt, and anone would clap together again with incredible Force. The same happened to her Shoulder-blade, her Elbow, and Hand-wrists. She would at other times ly in a benum d Condition, and be drawn together as if she had been ty'd Neck & Heels with Ropes; yet on a sudden would with such Force and Violence be pull'd up and Tear all about her, that it was as much as one or two could do, to hold her fast in their Arms: But when Ministers and other good Christians (seeing her in such intollerable Anguishes) made serious Application by Prayer to God, on her behalf, she got respite from her grievous Fits of this kind, and was ordinarly free of them during the time of Prayer, tho seiz'd of them before; and albeit usually when Ministers began to Pray, she made great disturbance by idle lowd talking, Whistling, Singing, and Roaring, to drown the Voice of the person praying. Particularly *January* 21. She was more Turbulent then at other times she us'd to be, and continued some space after the Minister began to Pray, Singing and making a hideous Noise, fetching furious Blows with her Fist, and Kicks with her Feet at the Minister, uttering reproachful Talk of him, and calling him Dog, *&c.* Yet she being Compos'd, and her Fits being over before Prayer was ended, and the Minister when he had done, finding her Sober and in a right Composure of Mind, enquired why she made such disturbance? To which she reply'd, she was forc'd to do it by the Hellish Crue about her, and that she thought they were none of her own words that she uttered.

January 24*th*. She said some things relating both to herself and others had been suggested to her by her Troublers; but that they had threatned to Torment her, if she should offer to make them known. And accordingly she Essaying to express her Mind, was cast into two grevious Fits, in which she cry'd out of Vio-

violent pains; all the parts of her Body becoming Rigid and extended like a Corpse, her Head was twisted round, and if any offered by force to obstruct such dangerous Motion she seem'd to be upon, she would roar exceedingly; sometimes her Neck bone seem'd to be dislolv'd; and yet on a sudden became so stiff, that there was no moving of it; and when those greivous Agonys were over, she again Essay'd to express her Mind by Write, but to no purpose; for instantly she was cast into other two very greivous Fits, wherein she was struck Dumb, Deaf and Blind, and her Tongue drawn a prodigeous length over her Chin. And when the Fits were over, declar'd, the *Andersons* *J. P.* the Gentlewoman, and *I. D.* with the rest of the Hellish Crew, some of whom she could not name, had been Tormenting her in the Fits, and that there had been fifteen of them about the House all the last Night; but were now all gone, save one, who was to stay about the House till her Fits were over. And accordingly her Brother and Sister did declare; they saw that Morning a Woman in the Garden with a red Coat about her Head, sitting at the Root of an Aple-Tree; but *Bargarren* with most of the Servants being abroad, the Matter was not further search'd.

The same day about Six at Night, she was seiz'd with variety of greivous Fits again, in which sometimes she lay wholly Senseless and Breathless, with her Belly swel'd like a Drum, as like a Woman with Child, her Eyes were pul'd into her Head so far, that Spectators thought she should never have us'd them more, sometimes when she was tying her own Neck-cloaths, her enchanted Hands would ty them so strait about her Neck, that she had strangled her self if Spectators had not given some Relief unto her; sometimes she was in hazard of burning her self in the fire, offering with violence to throw her self into the same. Divers time she did strick furious Blows at her near Relations in her Fits, she'd maintain Discourse with her Tormentors; and asking Questions concerning her self and others, received answer from them; which indeed none but her self perceiv'd. Reasoning particularly with one of them after this manner; "O what ail'd thee to be a Witch! thou sai'st it is but three Nights since "thou wast a Witch, O if thou would'st Repent, it may be GOD might give "thee Repentance, if thou would'st seek it, and Confess; if thou would desire "me I would do what I could; for the Devil is an ill Master to serve, he is a "Lyer from the beginning, he promises but he cannot perform. Then calling for her Bible, she said, I'l let thee see where he promised to our first Parents, that they should not Die. *And reading the passage, said,* now thou seest "he is a Lyer; for by breaking of the Commandment, they were made lyable "to Death here and Death everlasting. O that's an Uncouth word; long Eternity never to have an end, never never to have an end. Had not GOD of "his infinit Mercy ordain'd some to Eternal Life through JESUS CHRIST. "The Devil makes thee believe thou wilt get great Riches by serving him; but "come near, and having uttered this word she lost power of Speech, her Tongue being drawn back into her Throat; yet beckning with her Hand to the Spectre to come near her, & turning over the Book, kep't her Eye upon that passage of Holy Scripture. *Job.* 27. 18. And pointing with her Finger at the place and shaking her Head, turn'd over the Book again. "And recovering Speech "said, I'l let thee see where GOD bids us seek and we shall find, and reading "over the place said, it is GOD that gives us every good Gift, we have nothing "of our own, I submit to his will tho I never be better; for GOD can make all "my trouble turn to my Advantage; according to his Word, *Rom.* 8. 28. which

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place, ſhe then read, and thus continued Reaſoning, for the ſpace of an Hour.

Sometimes ſhe cry'd out of violent pain, by reaſon of furious Blows and Stroaks ſhe had received from the Hands of her Tormentors, the Noiſe of which Stroaks byſtanders diſtinctly heard, tho they perceiv'd not the Hands that gave them. One Night the Girle ſitting with her Parents and others cry'd out, *ſomething was wounding her Thigh*. Upon which, inſtantly her Mother putting her Hand in the Damſels pocket, found her folding Knife open'd, which had been folded, when put in her Pocket, but her Uncle not truſting the thing; did again put up the Knife and leaving it folden in her pock't, on a ſudden ſhe cry'd out as before, *the Knife was cutting her Thigh. being unfolded by the means of* J. P. and *others*, as ſhe ſaid: Upon which her Uncle ſearching her Pocket, again found the Knife open'd as formerly. This happened twice or thrice to the Admiration of the Beholders, tho they took ſpecial Notice that ſhe nor any other viſible Hand opened it.

January 25*th*. She was again ſeizd with her Swooning ſtiff Fits, with this remarkable Variation; her Throat was ſometimes moſt prodigiouſly extended, and ſometimes as ſtrangely Contracted and Convel'd, ſo that ſhe appeard in palpable danger of being Choak't, and through the violence of pain in her Throat and difficulty of Breathing ſtruggled with her Feet and Hands, as if ſome had been actually Strangling her, and could Speak or Cry none; with which kind of Fits ſhe was frequently ſeiz'd for ſeveral days; and in the intervals did declare that the fore-mention'd perſons, and others (whom ſhe could not get then nam'd) were ſtrangling her, and that the occaſion of her not having power to ſpeak or cry in the Fit, was a Ball in her Throat, which alſo was viſible to Spectators; for they did clearly diſcern a Bunch in her Throat (while in the Fit) as bigg as a *Pullets* Egg which had almoſt Choak't her.

Sometimes ſhe was kep't from eating her Meat; having her Teeth ſett, when ſhe carried any food to her Mouth. Diverſe times alſo ſhe was kep't from Drinking, when at Meat; for no ſooner could ſhe taſte the Drink, but ſhe was in hazard to be Choak't thereby, and her ſelf ſometimes would have held the Cup ſo hard betwixt her Teeth, that it was not in the power of thoſe with her to unlooſe it. And when any thing had fallen out amiſs in the place where ſhe was, as the falling and breaking of a Cup, any Body's receiving harm, and ſuch like. She would fall a laughing and rejoyce extremely; which kind of Jollity was far from the Girl's temper when at her ſelf.

February 1*ſt*. She Eſſaying to tell ſome things ſhe had been forbidden by her Tormentors to make known, was handled with intolerable Torments. At the beginning of her Fits uſually ſhe would be kep't odly looking; ſometimes toward the Chimney, ſometimes towards other particular places in the Room, but could not always tell what ſhe ſaw; yet for ordinary ſhe'd Name ſuch and ſuch Perſons, who, ſhe ſaid were then come to caſt her into Fits. And when any deſired her to cry to the LORD JESUS for help, her Teeth were inſtantly ſett cloſe, her Eyes twiſted almoſt round in her Head, and ſhe was thrown upon the Floo with the ſtiffneſs, & poſture of one that had been ſome days laid for Dead. And on a ſudden recovered again, and would weep bitterly, to remember what had befal'n her. The ſame day, when her Fits were over, ſhe ſaid, ſhe now perceiv'd it was by the means of a Charm, that ſuch Reſtraints were laid upon her that ſhe could not tell what the Witches had forbidden her to make known, but the Charm might be found out (as ſhe ſaid) by ſearching for it beneath the Bed where ſhe lay; and ſhe having quickly done this her ſelf, found (to the

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apprehenſion of Spectators) beneath the foreſaid Bed, an intire Egg-ſhell open in the end, which being inſtantly thrown into the Fire, did melt away after the manner of Wax, without any ſuch Noiſe as Egg-ſhells uſe to make when burning in the Fire. After this the Girle ſaid, ſhe would not now be handled ſo ſeverely, upon Eſſaying to make known what the Witches had forbidden her to tell, only her Tongue would be drawn back into her Throat, which accordingly happened. She did likeways inform her Friends of many things ſhe had not liberty to do before the Charm was found out, particularly that her Tormentors had frequently ſolicited her to become a Witch her ſelf, and promiſed her great Riches, and perfect Health alſo, to induce her thereunto. Which Tentation, ſhe through the infinit Mercy of GOD ſtill reſiſted, reaſoning with them after this manner " The Devil promiſes " what he cannot perform, and granting he could fulfill his promiſes; yet I " am ſure from the Scriptures, Hell and the wrath of GOD will be the final re- " ward of all ſuch as yeild to this Wickedneſs. *To which ſhe receiv'd this reply (which indeed none but her ſelf perceiv'd) that* " Hell and the wrath of GOD ſo " much talk't of, was not ſo formidable as was repreſented. She alſo ſaid, the Witches had Importunatly urged her to give them her Conſent, to take away the Life of her young Siſter, who was at that time upon her Mothers breaſt; which Tentation alſo ſhe was enabled thorow the Grace of God to reſiſt. She told her Parents likeways, there had been a Charm laid upon the top of the Houſe where her young Siſter was (the Child having been ſent out a nurſing, by reaſon of the continued Affliction of the Family) and that the Charm had been plac'd upon the top of the Houſe by *pinch'd Maggi*, who thereby did deſign the taking away of her Siſters Life; and that this was the Cauſe why ſhe had ſo often for ſome Weeks before deſired her Mother to bring home her Siſter, conſtantly affirming, that the Child would daily decay as long as ſhe ſtayed there: Where- upon her Parents obſerving the daily decay of the Infant; even to Skin and Bone, brought her home, where ſhe recovered. And the Girle being asked how ſhe came to the knowledge of theſe things? Reply'd, ſome thing ſpeaking diſtinct- ly as it were above her Head, had ſuggeſted theſe & other things of that Nature to her.

February 2*d*. The Girle being in the Chamber with her Mother and others, was on a ſudden ſtruck with great Fear and Conſternation; and fell a trembling upon the ſight of *John Lindſay* in *Barcloch*, talking with her Father in the Hall. She ſaid to her Mother, the foreſaid *Lindſay* had been always one of her moſt violent Tormentors, and that ſhe had been threatned with extreme Tortures, if ſhe ſhould offer to Name him; whereupon ſhe was deſired to go toward the place where he was, and touch ſome part of his Body in a way unknown to him, which ſhe having done with ſome Averſation, was inſtantly ſeiz'd with extreme Tortures in all the parts of her Body. After which *Lindſay* was put to it, and Interrogat thereupon; but he giving no ſatisfying Anſwer, was deſir'd to take the Damſel by the Hand, which he being unwillingly induc'd to do, ſhe was immediatly upon his Touch caſt into intolerable Anguiſhes, her Eyes be- ing almoſt twiſted round in her Head, and all the parts of her Body becoming Rigid and ſtiff, fell down in the poſture of one that had been laid for ſome days Dead, and afterwards got up in a ſudden, and tearing her Cloaths, threw her ſelf with violence upon him, and when her Fits were over, Spectators did alſo take the Damſel by the Hand; yet no ſuch effect followed.

About Six at Night there came an Old Highland fellow to *Bargarran*, who calling himself a weary traveller, said he behoov'd to Lodge there that Night, but the Servants refusing him Lodging, gave him some thing be way of Alms. At this time the Damsel being in the Chamber with her Mother and another Gentlewoman, said to her best apprehension there was one of the wicked Crew in or about the House at that time; whereupon her Mother made haste with her Daughter down stairs toward the Kitchen. And finding there unexpectedly the Highland fellow, whom the Girle then accused as one of her Tormentors, she desired the Highland fellow to take her Daughter by the Hand, which he being urg'd to do, the Girle immediatly upon his Touch was grievously Tormented in all the parts of her Body And this falling out in divine providence, *Bargarran* caus'd secure him. The next Morning the Minister having come to *Bargarran* to visit the Damsel, and the matter being imparted to him, called for the Highland fellow, and having question'd him to and again about this Matter without any satisfying Answer, brought the Child out of the Chamber covering her Face, and almost her whole Body with his Cloak, and giving signs to the Highland fellow to touch her in this posture, as he had ordered him before, without the Damsels knowledge, which he having done with great Aversion the Girle not knowing of his touch, was instantly cast into intollerable Agonys as formerly; yet others afterwards touching her, no such event followed. And when her Fits were over she besought the Highland fellow to allow her the Liberty for to discover and tell Persons that Haunted and Molested her, whom he had forbidden her to make known: Upon which the old Fellow looking at her with an angry Countenance, her Mouth was instantly stop't, and her Teeth sett: But being desired by those present to speak her mind freely; whether he would or not, at length reply'd, she fear'd to do it. And when thorow the importunity of the Lairds of *Dargavel* and *Porterfield* of *Fulwood*, and some other Gentlemen there present, she Essay'd to declare her mind, she was seiz'd with her Fits again.

Before this time, the lamentable Case of the afflicted Damsel and Family had been represented to His Majesty's most Honourable Privy Council, who, upon serious Application made to them, worthily and piously granted a Commission to a Noble Lord and some worthy Gentlemen, to make enquiry into the same. By vertue of this Commission some suspected persons were seiz'd; particularly *February* 4. *Alexander Anderson* (an Ignorant, Irreligious Fellow, who had been always of evil Fame, and accused by the afflicted Damsel) by a special Order from the Commissioners for Enquiry, was apprehended and committed to Prison; as was also *Elizabeth Anderson* his Daughter, upon flagrant Presumptions of Witchcraft; for the other Year *Jean Fulton* her Grand-mother, an old scandalous Woman, being cited before the Kirk-Session, and accus'd for hideous Cursing, and imprecating Mischief upon several Persons, which had been followed with fatal Events; the fore-mentioned *Elizabeth Anderson* her Grand-child, who liv'd in the House with her, did declare before the Session, she had frequently seen the Devil in company with her Grand mother, in the likeness of a small black Man, who usually did evanish on a sudden within the Walls of the House, when any Body came to the Door. Upon this Presumption was the said *Elizabeth Anderson* seiz'd with her Father, and committed to Custody; but at first most obstinatly denied accession any manner of way to the Sin of Witchcraft, until afterwards, when seriously importun'd and dealt with in the Prison by two Gentlemen, did, before she came to *Bargarran*'s House

House, confess her Guilt, without *Bargarran*'s knowledge at that time. And that she had been at several meetings with the Devil and Witches, and amongst others, she did delate her own Father, and the fore-mentioned High-land Fellow to have been active Instruments of the Girle's Trouble; and gave, before she was confronted with him, exact marks of this Highland body, and tho she declar'd she knew not his Name; yet when confronted with him did accuse him, and affirm he was the person she spoke of.

February 5th. A Quorum of the Commissioners being met at *Bargarran*, and the persons then delated by *Elizabeth Anderson* to have been at Meetings with the Devil, and active instruments of the Damsels Trouble, *Viz. Alexander Anderson* her Father, *Agnes Naismith*, *Margaret Fulton*, *James Lindsay* alias Curat, *John Lindsay* alias Bishop, *Katharine Campbel*, were all of them (excepting *John Lindsay* alias Bishop, who was not then apprehended) confronted with *Christian Shaw* before the Lord *Blantyre* and the rest of the Commissioners at *Bargarran*, and several other Gentlemen of Note and Ministers then present, and accused by her as her Tormentors. And they having all severally touched her in presence of the Commissioners, she was at each of their touches seiz'd with grievous Fits, and cast into intolerable Anguishes, others then present also touching her the same way, but no such Effect followed. And it is remarkable, when *Katharine Campbel* touched the Girle, she was immediatly upon her touch seiz'd with more grievous Fits, and cast into more intolerable Torments then what followed upon the touch of the other accused persons, whereat *Campbel* her self being Damped and Confounded, tho she had formerly declined to Bless her, uttered these words; *The Lord God of Heaven & Earth Bless thee, & save thee both Soul & Body*; after which the Damsel when the Fits were over, in which she had lyen a most pitiful Spectacle did declare she was now loos'd, & that she might freely touch any of the accus'd persons, or they her after this without trouble, which accordingly upon tryal fell so out, and being enquired how she came to the knowledge of that, answered as formerly in the like Case, That some thing speaking distinctly as it were above her Head, suggested this to her; And likewise, usually gave her the knowledge of the Names of her Tormentors, and Places in which they liv'd.

February 6. The Girle being seiz'd with sore Fits, some thing was seen in her Mouth, to the Judgment of Spectators like pieces of Orange Pills invisibly convey'd into her Mouth, which she seem'd in her Agonys to be Chewing, and having got down her Throat, as those present apprehended, she did fall down Dead and stiff, as if she had been Choak't struggling with her feet and Hands, as if at the last Gasp, her Throat swelling in a Prodigious manner; to the affrightment of Spectators, and when recovered, but yet in the light Fit; she'd say, O it was a very sweet Orange Pill which I got from the Gentlewoman, and did constantly affirm the same, declaring also that there had been others there present with the Gentlewoman, particularly *Margaret L.* or pinch't *Maggi*, whose Sirname she had neither Power nor Liberty to express, neither durst she offer to do it, lest she should be Tormented as was threatned, and always fell out when she Essay'd so do it, either by speaking or writing, which had appear'd the day before in presence of the Commissioners.

About this time, *Thomas Lindsay* a young Boy not yet Twelve Years of Age, was seiz'd, upon flagrant Presumptions of Witchcraft; he had said before several credible Persons, the Devil was his Father, and if he pleas'd he could fly in the likeness of a Crow upon the Mast of a Ship, he sometimes caus'd a Plough stand

& the Horſe break the Yoke upon the pronouncing of ſome words, and turning himſelf about widder-ſhins; that is a turning himſelf round from the right hand to the left, contrair to the Natural courſe of the Sun. This he would do upon the deſire of any Body who gave him a half-peny. Upon theſe and the like flagrant Preſumptions he was apprehended, who at firſt tho he continued moſt obſtinat in denyal; yet afterwards confeſs'd to the Miniſter in his own Houſe before famous Witneſſes, compact with the Devil, and that he had receiv'd the inſenſible mark from the Devil, which is viſible upon his Body: As alſo, that he had been at ſeveral meetings with the Devil and Witches, where he ſaid were preſent, his Brother *James* with others, and particularly thoſe who had been delated by *Anderſon*. This he confeſt, with ſome other wickedneſs of this kind before he was committed to Cuſtody in *Bargarran houſe*.

After this *Bargarran* made diligent ſearch for *James Lindſay*, eldeſt Brother to *Thomas*, having been all along accuſed by the afflicted Damſel as one of her Troublers, whom ſhe call'd the Gleid, or ſquint Ey'd, Elff (as he was indeed) for that was the Name the Crue about her gave him, who when he was brought upon the place, tho' he did at firſt moſt obſtinatly deny his Guilt, yet at length thorow the Endeavours of Mr. *Patrick Simpſon*, a Neighbour Miniſter, ingenuouſly confeſſed the Guilt he was charged with, and in his Confeſſion did agree in every material Circumſtance with the other two, tho he knew not what they had confeſt, he having not ſeen them before his Confeſſion, nor had he any occaſion of Information in conference with others there-anent, being immediatly brought to the place from the Tolbooth of *Glaſgow*, where he had been ſome Weeks before that time in Priſon as a vagabond Begger, upon a deſign to have ſent him to Forreign Plantations.

A more particular Account of what they freely Confeſs'd and Acknowledg'd before the Commiſſioners for Enquiry, we have for the ſatisfaction of the Reader ſubjoin'd to the Narrative; with an Abſtract of the Report made by the Commiſſioners, to the Lords of His Majeſty's moſt Honourable Privy Council, concerning the whole Affair.

February 11. There was by the Presbitry's appointment a publick Faſt kept upon the Damſels account in the Church of *Erſkine*, in which Mr. *Turner* Miniſter of the place begun the Work with Prayer, expounding *Rev.* 12. from Ver. 7. to Ver. 13. Mr. *James Hutchiſon* Miniſter at *Killellan* took the next turn of Prayer, and did preach upon 1 *Pet.* 5. 8. and Mr. *Simpſon* concluded the Work, preaching upon *Mat.* 17. 20, 21. where the Girl was preſent all day; but before ſhe came to Church that Morning ſhe told, that while ſhe was in one of her Fits the Night before, ſhe heard the Devil ſpeaking of that publick Faſt, and what Miniſters were to be there, and that old Man Mr. *James Hutchiſon* ſhould ſtumble, and his Petuick fall off as he went up to the pulpit, and all the people ſhould laugh at him, and he ſhould break his Neck in going home. And when ſhe came out of the Church after the Forenoon's Work, ſhe ſaid, the Devil was a Liar, for no ſuch thing fell out as he had threatned. She was all day very quiet in Church; altho being in ſome of her light Fits ſome Spectres appear'd in time of the publick Work, which ſhe told of thereafter.

About ſix at Night there were preſent in the Chambet with the Damſel, Mr. *Simpſon* with his Wife, Lady *Northbarr* and others, diſcourſing and conferring about her Caſe; and while they were thus conferring together, ſhe told them, ſhe would gladly make ſome things known if ſhe durſt for her Tormenters;

and

and afterwards eſſaying to do it, was inſtantly ſeiz'd with a violent Fit; in which ſhe leapt ſtraight up, and appear'd as if ſhe had been choak'd, ſo that it was as much as one or two could do, to hold her faſt in their Arms: And when the Fit was over, Mr. *Simpſon* going about Family Worſhip, did expound *Pſalm* 110. and ſpeaking of the limited power of the Adverſaries of our Lord JESUS CHRIST, from the latter part of Ver 1 ſhe was on a ſudden ſeiz'd with another grievous Fit, in which ſhe put out of her Mouth ſome Blood, which rais'd Grounds of Fear and jealouſy in the Minds of Spectators, that ſomething in her Mouth hurting her had been the occaſion of it; yet they could not get her Mouth opened, tho they uſed means to open the ſame, her Teeth being cloſs ſet. And in the interval of the Fit ſhe being ask'd, if ſhe found any thing in her Mouth that had been the occaſion of her putting out of Blood; ſhe reply'd, ſhe found nothing, not knew the Cauſe thereof; but opening her mouth, thoſe preſent found one of her double Teeth newly drawn out, but knew not what became of the Tooth; for tho' ſearch was made for the ſame, it could not be found: After which the Miniſter proceeded upon the ſame ſubject, but was again interrupted by her renewed Fits, yet cloſed the Exerciſe with Prayer, after which, without more trouble, ſhe was taken to her Bed.

February 12. *Margaret Laing* and her Daughter *Martha Semple*, being delated by the three Confeſſants, and accuſed by the Girl to have been active inſtruments in her Trouble, came of their own accord to *Bargarran*'s Houſe, and before they came up Stairs the Girl ſaid, ſhe was now bound up, and could not accuſe *Margaret Laing* to her Face: And accordingly the Girl's Mother having deſired ſome of thoſe who were ſitting by her to feel ſome parts of her Body, and they having done it, found her Body ſo ſtiff and inflexible, that there was no moving of it, and immediatly again found ſome parts of her Body contracted and drawn hard togethe, as if by Cords; after this *Margaret Laing* and her Daughter, having gone to the Chamber to the Girle, did in preſence of the Miniſters and others, deſire the Damſel to come to her; for ſhe would do her no Harm, and laying her Arms about her, ſpake very faifly to her, and queſtion'd her if ever ſhe had ſeen her or her Daughter amongſt her Tormentors, to which the Girle did poſitively reply, ſhe had frequently ſeen her Daughter; but declined thorow fear to accuſe her ſelf, ſaying faintly *No*; after which *Margaret* and her Daughter returning into the Hall, and the Miniſter enquiring at her why ſhe ſaid *No*, ſeeing ſhe had accus'd her before, ſhe anſwered, take me contrar, upon which ſhe was ſeiz'd with a grievous Fit; yet after her recovery being urg'd again by thoſe preſent to tell her Mind freely, whether or not *Margaret Laing* was one of her Tormentors the Child thereupon Eſſaying to ſay *Yes*, and having half-pronounced the Word, was caſt into unexpreſſible Anguiſhes; and again in the interval of the Fit, ſhe Eſſay'd to expreſs the ſame thing, and ſaying only the word *Tint* (that is loſt) was on a ſudden ſtruck with another fit, and when the fit was over, and the Child returned to the Chamber, *Margaret Laing* who was ſitting near the Hall door, ſpoke theſe words after her. *The Lord bleſs thee, and ding* (*that is beat, or drive*) *the Devil out of thee.* A little after which words, *Margaret* going down ſtairs, the Damſel came to the Hall and ſaid, her Bonds were now loos'd, and that now ſhe could accuſe *Margaret Laing* to her Face, and declar'd the occaſion of her being ſo Reſtrain'd and Bound up while *Margaret* was preſent, was her letting fall a parcel of Hair at the Hall door as ſhe came in; being a Charm made by her for

that end, which also had been the occasion of her uttering the word *Tint* in the former fit: And accordingly a parcel of Hair had been found at the Hall-door, after *Margaret Lang* had gone straight from the Hall to the Chamber, which immediatly was cast into the Fire and burat. And its remarkable, that it could be attested that there was no Hair, or any other thing else in that place before *Margaret Lang* came in, and the Girle being enquired, what way she knew *Margaret Lang* had laid the forementioned Charm upon her, replyed, something speaking distinctly to her as it were aboye her Head, had suggested that to her.

About Eight at Night she was severely handled in her Fits, much after the former manner, and while she was in her swooning Fits, there was seen in her Mouth a Pin, wherewith she seem'd almost Choak't; but by divine providence it was with great difficulty got out. After this she was somewhat composed, and did not much complain of pain; but was distinctly heard to entertain discourse with some invisible Creatures about her, and the Reply's given by her, and heard by those who took care of her, gave them ground to conclude she was tempted to set her Hand to a Paper then presented to her, with Promises that upon her yielding thereunto *she should never be troubled any more; as also that she should get sweet meats, a drink of Sack, a bonny handsome Coat with Silver Lace*: She was also distinctly heard say, resisting the Tempter, *Thou art a filthy Sow, should I obey thee; this was not the end of my Creation, but to Glorify GOD and enjoy Him for ever; and thou promisest What thou canst not perform: Art thou angry at me for saying thou Sow, what should I call thee but thou filthy Sow? Art thou not the filthy Devil, for as brave as thou art with thy Silver and Gold Lace? Wouldst thou have me Renounce my Baptism? Dost thou promise to give me brave Men in Marriage, and fine Cloaths, and perfect Health, if I should consent thereunto? Dost thou say my Baptism will do me no good, because thou alledgest he was not a sufficient Minister that baptized me? thou art a Liar, I'll be content to die ere I renounce my Baptism. O thorow the Grace of GOD I'll never do it.* And thus she continued Reasoning, being both Blind and Deaf, for the space of two Hours; and when she came to herself did declare it was the Devil, who first presented himself tempting her in the shape of a Sow, to Renounce her Baptism, as is hinted; and that he did chide her when she call'd him, *thou Sow*, and immediatly appear'd to her again in the shape of a brave Gentleman, as having Gold and Silver Lace on his Cloaths, still urging her to renounce her Baptism, which Tentation she thorow the special assistance of the Grace of God effectually resisted: she also said, that it had been suggested to her by the Spirit, speaking to her as it were above her Head, after the Combat with the Tempter was over, that one of her Tormentors would be at the House the Morrow.

February 18. She was seiz'd with a sore fit about Twelve a Clock of the day, in which she continued for more than two Hours space, both Deaf and Blind. Those in the Room with her crying to her with a loud Voice, and pinching her Hands and other parts of her Body; but all to no purpose. And in this posture was hurried To and Fro with violence thorow the Room: And when any Body by force offer'd to hinder the dangerous and violent Motion she seem'd to be upon, she'd Roar exceedingly, sometimes she'd desire her Father and Mother and others to come and take her Home (supposing her self not to be in her Fathers House) when the Girle was in this deplorable Condition, *Margaret Roger* who liv'd in the Neighbour-hood, came to the House of *Barbarran* enquiring for the Lady; and having come up stairs, the Parents of the

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Damſel remembering what the Girle had ſaid the Night before, that one of her Tormentors was to come that day to the Houſe, brought *Margaret Roger* to the Chamber where the Girle was, and ſo ſoon as ſhe entered the Door; the Damſel tho ſhe could diſcern none of theſe who were preſent with her, nor anſwer them when they cry'd to her; yet preſently ſaw her and ran towards her crying, *Maggi, Maggi, where haſt thou been? will thou take me with thee, for my Father and Mother have left me.* Whereupon Spectators being aſtoniſh'd, caus'd *Margaret* ſpeak to the Child, which ſhe having done, the Girl diſtinctly heard and anſwered her every word. After this, the Three Confeſſants ware alſo brought up to the Chamber where the Damſel was, and as ſoon as they entered the Door, ſhe ran alſo to them laughing as if ſhe had been overjoy'd, anſwering them when they ſpoke to her: and *Margaret Roger* there preſent, being confronted with the Confeſſants: They did declare, that ſhe had been at Meetings with the Devil and Witches in *Bargarrans* Orchard, conſulting and contriving *Chriſtian Shaw's* ruine.

The Lords Day following, being *February* 14. After ſome ſhort intervals ſhe was again ſeiz'd with her fits, in which ſhe ſaid, *Margaret Lang and her Daughter Martha Simple, were Tormenting her and cutting her Throat*; which words thorow violence of Pain, and difficulty of Breathing, ſhe uttered with a low and hardly audible Voice, and upon the naming of *Margaret Lang* and her Daughter, ſhe was toſt'd and dreadfully Tormented in all the parts of her Body, being made ſometimes to ſtand upon her Head and Feet at once, ſometimes her Belly ſwelling like a Drum; and falling again in a ſudden, and ſometimes her Head and other parts of her Body were like to be ſhaken in pieces, ſo that Spectators fear'd ſhe would never ſpeak more. And when the fit was over, ſhe declar'd, *Margaret Lang* ſaid to her while in the fit, *That ſhe would give her a Toſty* (which imports hot and ſevere handling) for naming her.

At this time ſhe was ſeldom free of her light fits, which for moſt part were all the reſpite and eaſe ſhe had from the unexpreſſible Agonys ſhe endur'd in her more grievous fits; unleſs when aſleep: and while ſhe was in theſe fits, no Body could perſwade her to pray, yet when in a right compoſure of Mind and perfectly at her ſelf, ſhe'd weep bitterly to remember this, expreſſing her fears, leſt that might be any evidence GOD would forſake her.

February 18. About two in the Afternoon, ſhe being in the light fit, ſaid, *The Devil now appear'd to her in the ſhape of a Man*; whereupon ſhe bring ſtruck with great Fear and Conſternation, was deſir'd to Pray with an audible Voice, *The Lord rebuke thee Satan*; which ſhe eſſaying to do, inſtantly loſt power of ſpeech, her Teeth being ſett, and her Tongue drawn back into her Throat, and ſhe eſſaying again, was immediatly ſeiz'd with another grivous fit; in which her Eyes being twiſted almoſt round in her Head; ſhe fell down as one Dead, ſtrugling with Feet and Hands, and again getting up on a ſudden, was hurried with violence Too and Fro thorow the Room Deaf and Blind; yet was ſpeaking with ſome inviſible Creatures about her ſaying, *with the Lords ſtrength thou ſhalt neither put Straw nor Sticks into my Mouth.* After this ſhe cry'd in a pitiful manner, the Bumbee hath ſting'd me, then preſently ſitting down and looſing her Stocking, put her Hand to that part which had been Nip't or Pinch't, whereupon Spectators did viſibly diſcern the lively marks of Nails of Fingers deeply imprinted on that ſame part of her Leg. And when ſhe came to her ſelf, ſhe did declare, *That ſomething ſpeaking to her as it were above her Head*; told her it

was

was *M. M.* in a Nighbouring Parish (nameing the place) *that had appear'd to her, and pinch't her Leg in the likneſs of a Bumbee.* She likewiſe did declare, that the forementioned *M. M. inſtantly after this had been ſuggeſted to her, appeared in her own ſhape and likeneſs as ſhe us'd to be at other times.* Shortly after this being ſtill ſeiz'd with her light fit, ſhe whiſper'd in her Mothers Ear, *The Devil was now appearing to her again in the ſhape of a Gentleman*: And being inſtantly ſeiz'd with her fits, in which ſhe was both Blind and Deaf, was diſtinctly heard arguing after this manner. *Thou think'ſt to tempt me to be a Witch; but thorow GOD's ſtrength thou ſhalt never be the better: I charge thee in the Name of GOD to be gone and thy Papers too, in the LORD's ſtrength I'l not fear thee, I'l ſtand here and ſee if thou can come one ſtep nearer me, I think thou fear ſt me more then I fear thee.* Then turning her ſelf again, ſhe was hurried To and Fro with violence thorow the Room, as formerly ſaying, *ſhe was Bitten or pinch't very ſore in the Hands with Teeth, and Nip't with Fingers, above Twenty four times*; which conſtrain'd her to horrid Schreeks, and out crys at every time ſhe receiv'd them, ſhewing and pointing with her Finger on theſe parts of her Arm and Leg which had been Pinch't and Bitten; but neither ſaw nor heard any about her. And accordingly Spectators did viſibly diſcern the evident marks of the Teeth and Nails of Fingers upon her Arms and Legs. In this poſture the Girle continued from two to five in the Afternoon, and when her Miſerys were over, ſhe ſaid *M. M. told her in the Fit, that* Margaret Lang *then in cuſtody, had ordered her to handle her after that manner. And that* Margaret Lang *had a commanding power over her.*

Friday and *Saturday* thereafter being *February* 19. and 20 ſhe was frequently ſeiz'd with the foremention'd fits, and being violently Bitten Pinch't and Nip't in her hands neck and other parts of her body, ſo that the clear marks of the nails of fingers and ſteeds of teeth both Upper and Lower, with the ſpitle and ſlaver of a mouth thereupon were evidently ſeen by ſpectators. About this time when ſeiz'd with her Blind and Deaf fits, a crooked fellow appear'd to her having his two feet deform'd his two heells wrying inward toward one another, and the fore parts of his feet outward from one another, ſo that the broadſide of his feet mov'd fotemoſt, and upon the appearing of this fellow her feet were put in the very ſame poſture during the time he tormented her. *It* is to be noticed that there is a fellow in one of the neighbouring pariſhes, whoſe feet are exactly in that manner derform'd, who has been of a long time of evil fame, and given up by the confeſſants to have been ſeen at meetings with the Devil and the reſt of the crew in *Bargarrens* Orchard.

Saturday being *February* 20. The whole family being gone to bed, they had left a great quantity of Peets (or Turf) beſide the hall Chimney, which the next morning they ſaw them burnt to aſhes, tho there had been no fire in the Chimney nor near them, ſo that the plaiſter and ſtones of the wall where the Peets or Turfe lay were in a great part turn'd to rubbiſh thorow the violence of the fire but no other damnage followed, the hall floor being laid with ſtones, and the Peets lying within the boſome of a large Chimney brace.

February 27th, The Chamber fire having been covered with aſhes in the Chimney when the family went to bed, the next morning tho a good quantity of aſhes had been left; yet they found all clean ſweept away, and no appearance of aſhes nor fire there at all, albeit none in the family that night nor next morning had been thereafter the fire was gathered, before this was obſerved.

In fits of this kind she continued for several days thereafter, naming the fore-mention'd crooked fellow *J. R.* and *M. A.* living in the neighbouring parishes, which two Women were delated by the three confessants to be amongst her tormenters, and particularly upon the Lords day being *February* 21. and the Munday following, the said *J. R.* appearing to her grievously vexed her, withall telling she was commissionated so to do. The Gentlewoman *M. M.* having a pain in her head at that time, and so not able to come forth. Concerning which it is worthy of remark, that the Damsel declar'd *M. M.* to have appeared to her about two days thereafter with her head bound up with a Napkin (or handker-chief) in which like habite or posture, she did not formerly appear.

Upon *Thursday* thereafter being *February* 25 She continued in the former fits, weeping bitterly and complaining of pain in both her sides, she also told in the interval of her fits, that she was that night to be in very grievous and sore fits, her tormenters being resolved to choak her, by putting pins in her mouth, which (tho she emptied her self of all that were in her Cloaths) yet accordingly came to pass: In which she was both Blind and Deaf, leaping up and down in an extraordinary manner, pulling down what ever came to her Hand, and this continued for some days putting out of her Mouth a great quantity of small broken Pins, which she declar'd *J. R.* had forc'd into the same.

Upon the Lords day being the last of *February*, about five a Clock in the Afternoon she fell into grievous fits, accompained with Hideous or loud Laughing, Leaping, and tuning with violence to and fro, and thereafter weept sore, crying out of Pain, that a little Highland Man, (whom she knew to be such by his habit and speech) was now breaking her Leg; which (because of pain) she scarce could get told in the fit, and putting her Hand to the part of her Leg affected; Spectators untying her stocking, distinctly observed a sore bruise in her Shin-bone; which when touched did so pain her, that she uttered horrid Schreeks and Crys; and when recovered did declare, that the little Highland fellow had given her that bruise. After this, she put out of her Mouth a crooked Pin, by which she told the fore said Highland fellow having forc't it into her Mouth, design'd to Choak her.

The first eight days of *March* she continued in her former fits; with little Variation, putting out of her Mouth a great number of small Pins, often fainting and falling as Dead upon the ground on a sudden, again strugling with Feet and Hands; by all which her Natural Spirits were much Weakned and Exhausted; sometimes also she Essay'd to go into the Fire. About this time when Ministers and other Christians met in the Family for Prayer, she us'd at the beginning of the work to make great disturbance, particularly *March* 2. which day being set a part for Fasting and Praying in the Family, prayer begun, she was for some time very composed, untill of a sudden, a strong blast of Wind forced open the Windows of the Room; upon which she was instantly seiz'd with a violent fit, the Minister in the very same time supplicating God that she might be delivered from Satans Bonds: In which fit she being both Blind and Deaf as to All, except her Tormentors, was hurried with violence to and fro the Room, sometimes falling down as one Dead, sometimes Singing and making a Hidious loud Noise, sometimes nameing *M. M.* and others, who she said were there present Afflicting and Tormenting her, withall, nameing the particular places of the Room where she saw them standing and sitting. After all which, when recovered out of the fit, she told that a Gentle-

woman

woman and a little Highland fellow came in with the blaſt of Wind, which forc'd open the Windows. This falling out upon the *Tueſday*, ſhe continued in the ſame fit without any Intermiſſion, till the Sabbath thereafter, not being ſeiz'd with any of her ſore fits: And having gone to Church the Lords day following, was perfectly well for the moſt part of the day; yet affirmed ſhe ſaw *Janet Wagh* and others in one of the Windows of the Church, tho inviſible to all others.

Tueſday, being *March* the 9th. Her Mother and *Margaret Campbel* her Couſin took the Damſel to walk with them in the Orchard; and returning back to the houſe, her Mother entring the Tower gate firſt, the Damſel being at her back and *Margaret Campbel* tarrying a little while at the gate; her Mother going into the Kitchen, ſuppos'd they had both been with her, whereas the Damſel was of a ſudden carried away in a flight up Stairs with ſo ſwift and unaccountable motion, that her abſence was not in the leaſt ſuſpected, but her Mother turning about and miſſing her, cry'd whither is *Chriſtian* and *Margaret Campbell*? And inſtantly runing up Stairs to look for the Damſel heard a noiſe and following the ſame, found the Damſel Leaping and Dancing upon one of the Stairs being ſeiz'd with fits, out of which when ſhe had recovered ſhe told, that *J. P.* had carried her away from her Mothers back as ſhe entred the Kitchen door (her feet not touching the ground to her apprehenſion) and that with a deſign to ſtrangle her in an high wardrob with Ropes on which the Linning us'd to dry, but that the ſaid *J. P.* could carry her no further then the place where ſhe was found, and did therefore leave her in ſuch a violent fit,

Upon the Lords day thereafter being *March* 14, Her fits again altered, in that her Mouth and Noſe were prodigiouſly diſtorted and turned about while in the fit, her face being thereby ſtrangely and horridly deform'd. That ſame day ſhe being in Church in the Forenoon, her Glove falling from her, the ſame was again put into her Hand by ſome inviſible Agent, to the Amazment of beholders. To which we may add here, as that which is worthy of remark, that all this while an *inviſible being*, haunted her on all occaſions, ſuggeſting many things unto her, both concerning her ſelf and others; but yet never heard by any but her ſelf.

The ſame day betwixt Sermons, ſhe told that ſhe was to be violently Tormented in the Afternoon; which accordingly came to paſs, and when in her fits ſhe named one *J. K.* a Woman living in the Nighbouring bounds of whom ſhe ſaid, that ſhe had ſeen her in the Church. As alſo, that ſhe was Maſter of theſe kind of fits ſhe was now afflicted with; withal aſſerting, that if the ſaid *I. K.* were not ſent for, ſhe would grow worſe and worſe; which her parents finding to be true, ſent in the Evening for the ſaid *I. K.* threatning her, if the Damſel was any further troubled with her, that ſhe ſhould be apprehended as others had been; after which the Damſel being in the mean time in a very ſore fit, the forementioned *I. K.* prayed (tho not deſired) that God might ſend the Damſel her Health; whereupon the Damſel was no more troubled with theſe kind of fits; but did inſtantly recover, by falling into a ſwoon as ſhe us'd to do before recovery out of any of her fits.

Tueſday being *March* 16, ſhe was again ſeiz'd with her other kind of fits, all the parts of her body being Stiff and Rigid; and ſometimes in them was hear'd converſing with the Gentlewoman (as ſhe call'd her) vindicating her ſelf of what the Gentlewoman alledged againſt her, *Viz. That ſhe had accuſed ſome innocent perſons as her Tormentors.* To which the Damſel diſtinctly Reply'd, *That*

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she was a Lyer, saying, it was you your self, and none other ever mentioned any such thing.

Thus she continued untill the *Friday* thereafter, being never free of the light fits, now and then also falling into swoons, and appear'd to be almost choaked by the means of some Charms and Inchantments, invisibly conveyed into her Mouth; which to the apprehension of Spectators, were as if it had been pieces of Chastnuts, Orange-pills, Whites of Eggs, or such like, all which were distinctly observed, when occasionally in the fit she opened her Mouth; and when Spectators Essay'd to get them out, she kep't her Mouth & Teeth so closs, that no strength could open the same. And when recovered out of the fit, she told *L. M.* a Woman living in the Neighbouring bounds had put them in her Mouth.

Upon *Friday* being *March* 19, She was violently Tormented with sore fits, in which her Neck was distorted, and bended back like a Bow towards her Heels, struggling with Feet and Hands, sometimes Stiff, Blind, and Deaf, putting out of her Mouth a great number of small Pins; which she said the forementioned *L. M.* had put in her Mouth. And about six a Clock that same Night being violently Tormented, fell a crying, *That if the Gentlewoman was not apprehended that Night, it would be in vain to apprehend her to morrow*: For, said she, *I have much to suffer at her Hands betwixt Twelve and One a Clock in the Morning*. After this the Damsel lifting up her Eye lids with her Hands, and looking upwards, said, *what art thou that tells me that the Sheriff and my Father are coming here this Night*? After which the Sheriff, her Father and *James Guthry* Meacer to the Justiciary Court instantly come up stairs, to the Amazment of those who remembered what the Damsel just now had said. The Damsel continuing all this while Blind and Deaf; yet was heard (the foresaid persons being present) distinctly to discourse with some invisible Beeing near to her, saying, *Is the Sheriff come, is he near me*? and streaching out her hand to feel if any were about her, the Sheriff put his hand in her's; notwithstanding of which, she said to the invisible Beeing discoursing with her, *I cannot feel the Sheriff, how can he be present here? or how can I have him by the hand as thou say'st, seeing I feel it not? Thou say'st he hath brown coloured Cloths, red plush Breeches with black strips, flowered Musling Cravat, and an imbroidered Sword Belt: Thou says there is an Old gray Hair'd Man with him, having a Ring upon his Hand; but I can neither see nor feel any of them? what are they come to apprehend the Gentlewoman? Is this their Erand indeed?* And the Girle being enquired how she came to the knowledge of these strange things? Reply'd as formerly in the like case, something speaking distinctly as above her Head, suggested them to her. It is very observeable here, that the foresaid persons had that same Afternoon got an order from the Commissioners of Justiciary to apprehend the same Gentlewoman, and were so far on their way to put it to Execution against the next Morning; but being witnesses to the Damsels trouble, and hearing what she had told, to wit: That a delay in that matter would prove to her exceeding dangerous, they went straight on in their Journey that same Night to the Gentlewomans Habitation, and put their warrand to Execution.

As the Damsel still continued to be violently Tormented, sometimes lying with her Neck and other parts of her Body upon the Ground; as if they had been disjoynted, sometimes also Essaying to throw her self into the Fire. About Ten a Clock the same Night she continuing in the Fit, her Father (who had not gone with the Sheriff) beginning to read a part of the Word of God, she repeated

peated the Words after him tho Blind and Deaf in the mean time, which made Spectators apprehend, that the Damsel had the sense of Hearing in these sorts of fits, at least when the Word of God was read: To find out the truth of which, her Father did cease from reading, which tho he did; yet the Damsel continued to repeat the following Verses of the Chapter, while none in the Room were reading, and she her self had no Book: withal being heard say to some invisible Being about her, *Wilt thou teach me a part of the Old Testament as well as the New.*

The Damsel still continuing in the fore mentioned Fits, said unto the Persons present, that now it was Twelve of the Clock; Oh it is now past Twelve, sometimes lying as one dead thorow the violence of pain and decay of her natural Spirits, sometimes again recovering, essay'd to express somewhat, but could not; withal puting out of her Mouth a great quantity of crooked Pins, and the parts of her Body being prodigiously distorted, she complain'd of great pain: Thus she continued until half an hour after Twelve a Clock at Night; when on a sudden she recovered, to the admiration of Beholders, telling them, *She might now go to Bed*, being told by some invisible Informer, that the Sheriff and the other Gentleman, to wit the Macer, had now entred the Gentlewomans House; and accordingly going to bed, was no further troubled that Night. It is worthy of remark here, that the Sheriff and Macer at their return did declare, that it was just about that time they entred the Gentlewomans House, which the Damsel condescended upon.

Saturday being *March* 20. About Ten a Clock in the Forenoon she was of a sudden seiz'd with fits falling down as dead, her eyes quite closed, sometimes again opening and turning in her head, she saw nor heard none about her, but was hurried with violence to and fro thorow the Room, crying with a loud voice when any by force would hinder her motion. She being in this posture and depriv'd thus of her senses, *James Lindsay* one of the three Confessants was brought into the Room, who no sooner entered the door but was perceived by her, and she smiling ran towards him, saying *Jamie* where hast thou been this long time; how is it with thee? And answered him distinctly to every word he spake, tho at the same time she neither heard nor saw any other in the Room, nor could converse with them albeit tryed by several experiments for that purpose, particularly a Tobacco Box being held before her Eyes by a person present in the Room, she did not see it, but as soon as it was put in the hand of *James Lindsay* she instantly enquired at him, "Where he had got that Box; she continuing in this posture, the Sheriff, her Father being present, thought it fit to confront M. *M.* who was now come, thereby to try if the Damsel would hear or see her as she had done *James Lindsay*, which accordingly they did. And as soon as M. M. entered the door the Damsel (tho still in the fit) presently smiled and said, I see the Gentlewoman now, tho formerly she had never seen her personally but only her spectre in the fits. She likewise heard her when she spoke to her answering distinctly some questions proposed by M. M, such as, When it was she had seen her tormenting her. To which she answered, she had seen her the other night in her fits, and further challenged her, Why she had restrain'd her from making known the Highland Wifes name, as also saying unto her, Thou pretends thou knowest not what I say, thou knowest well enough. Upon all which; the Gentlewoman on a sudden (without being desired) prayed, That the Lord might send the Damsel her health saying, "Lord help thee poor daft Child and rebuke the Devil. Which words were no sooner uttered then the Damsel fell down as dead, and being in this posture carried to another

nother Room instantly recovered of the Blind, Deaf, and also of the light fit becomeing perfectly well & continued so for some time, & being thus recovered and M. M. removed into another Room, the Damsel was enquired at whom she had seen in her last fit. To which she reply'd, she had seen the Gentlewoman, tho in the mean time she was altogether ignorant of the Gentlewomans ever being personally present in the Room with her.

The same day the Commissioners of Justiciary having come to *Bargarran*, M. M. and the Damsel were again confronted, upon which the Damsel (being in the light Fit) upon the first look of the forementioned M. M. was suddenly seiz'd with sore Fits, out of which when recovered, she accused her as being one of her most violent tormenters, particularly mentioning such and such times in which she had in an extraordinary manner afflicted her, as also what words she spoke in her hearing while in the Fit, and which is yet more remarkable, did question the Gentlewoman if she did not sometime in *December* last when she was tormenting her, remember how she went away from her in great haste, saying she could stay no longer being obliged to attend a Childs burial at home. In confirmation of which it is very credibly informed that *Wi R*, a near neighbour of hers had a Child burried that same day, and that the Gentlewoman came not in due time to attend the Corpse to the burial place, but the Corpse being near to the Church-yeard ere she reached the House from whence they came, she returned again to her own lodging, and so did not accompany the burial at all.

The Lords day following being *March* 21, she fell into Swooning Fits complaining of no pain, except near to her heart, falling down as dead not only when the Fits seiz'd her, but also when she recovered, sometimes Singing after an unusual manner, withall informing Spectators that *J. G.* constrained her to that kind of Musick, her own Lips not at all moving in the mean time, which beholders saw to be true, only her Tongue, for preventing of which she frequently put her hand into her Mouth. And at this time when either she her self, or those about her, offered to read any part of Scripture, she was violently Tormented, declaring if she did but so much as hear the word of God read that day, she would certainly be extremely Tortured; in Confirmation of which when some essay'd to read *Hebr.* 11. 2, 4. 6. *Isa.* 40. *Psal.* 3. She uttered horrid Schreeks and Out-cryes, Complaining that *She was Pinched*, in evidence of which, the Prints or Marks of the Nails of Fingers were distinctly seen on her Arms, and being thus pinched or bitten four several times with great violence and pain, the Skin it self was seen to be torn from off these parts of her Arms and Fingers where the Prints of the Teeth and Nails were observed; so that from the deepness of the Wounds the foresaids parts affected fell a Bleeding, which Blood was both seen and handled by Spectators. Moreover the Damsel while in this sad and lamentable condition seem'd to be extremely affected and oppressed with sore Sickness, as one in a Fever, crying sometimes to *Remove these Dead Children out of her Sight*; which she frequently repeated from six to nine in the Morning, and she still continuing thorow the rest of the day, it was observed that some Charms and Inchantments were put in her Mouth as formerly, of which the Damsel being very sensible, fell down on a Sudden on the Ground putting her hand to some Spittle which she had put out of her Mouth, and lifted some Trash which she again cast down to the Ground, it making some Noise, but yet neither seen in her Spittle, nor else where by Spectators, tho while in her Mouth they distinctly observed something like Orange-Pils, Whites of Eggs, and peeces of Chesnuts.

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Munday, Being *March*, 22, the fore mentioned *L. M.* or *J. G.* came to *Bargarrans* house, and being confronted with the Damsel, questioned her if ever she had seen her in any of her Fits, withal alledging that she *viz. L. M.* or *J. G* could be none of her Tormentors, because the Damsel was not now seiz'd with a Fit, tho looking upon her as she us'd to be, when she look'd upon any of her other Tormentors when Confronted with them; upon which the Damsel being for sometime silent. *L. M.* or *J. G.* did again propose the same question to her, to which the Damsel distinctly reply'd *Yes*, upon which *L. M.* reply'd, perhaps, you have seen the Devil in my Shape.

As to this Conference there are several things exceeding remarkable, as first, that the Damsel upon her Answering, *Yes*, was immediatly seiz'd with a Fit. *2dly*, That however after *Katharine Campbel* had touch'd the Damsel in presence of the Commissioners, upon the *5th*, of *February* last, she had ever since that time freedom to touch any of her Tormentors without being seiz'd with her Fits, as has been hinted, yet true it is, that in the room of that Charm a new one took place, *viz.* When any time she looked upon her Tormentors in the Face, at the very first look she was seiz'd with her Fits; which Charm she declar'd was laid by the means of the forementioned *L. M.* or *J. G.* And also taken off again by her that very Morning before she came to visit the Damsel, and this she said was suggested to her by some invisible beeing, speaking distinctly as it were above her head; and that therefore the Damsel now had freedom to look *L. M.* in the Face without being seiz'd with Fits, which for a considerable time before she could not do when confronted with any of her Tormentors. *3ly*, It is yet more observable, that in the same Morning before ever *L. M.* came to visit the Damsel, it was told by the Damsel to several Persons in the Family, that L. M. had taken off that Charm, of her being seiz'd with Fits when looking any of her Tormentors in the Face, but withal that she had laid on another in its room, to wit, that as soon as the Damsel should by words confer with any of her Tormentors, so soon should she be seiz'd with a Fit, which accordingly was verified when she spoke to L. M. or J. G.

Tuesday being *March. 23d*, The Damsel being asleep in the Bed with her Mother about three a clock in the Morning was on a sudden awakned (having for sometime Struggled in her Sleep) in great fear and consternation, and being seiz'd with her Blind and Deaf Fits, took fast hold of her Mother, declaring to her Father and her, that the Devil was standing near to the Bed assaulting her, upon which she cry'd suddenly: *God Almighty keep me from thy meetings. I'l die rather then go to them, I'l never throw the Grace of God Renounce my Baptism; for I'l certainly go to Hell if I do it: Thou sayest I'l go to Hell however, because I am a great Sinner; but I believe what the word of God sayeth, tho I have many Sins; yet the Blood of Christ cleanseth from all Sin, and I will not add that great wickedness to my other Sins, which thou art tempting me to do. It's no wonder thou lie to me, seeing thou wast bold to lie in Gods Face. I know thou art a Liar from the beginning; and the red Coat thou promisest me, I know thou canst not perform it. And altho I should never Recover, I'm never resolv'd to renounce my Baptism, It is God who hath keeped me all this time from being a Witch, and I trust, he will yet by his Grace keep me, not because of any thing in me, but of his own great Mercy, and that he who hath keeped me hitherto from being devoured by thee, I hope will yet keep me.* This Conference continued near the space of an hour, her Father Mother and others being ear Witnesses to the same. And after recovery the Damsel declared that it was the Devil, who

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(in the shape of a naked Man with a Shirt, having much hair upon his hands and his Face like Swine Bristles) had appeard to her tempting her as aforesaid.

Untill Sabbath following she continued in the light Fit, but withal every Morning and Evening was still seiz'd with her sore Fits, continuing still to name M, M, (who was at this time set at liberty) the forementioned *L. M*, *E. T.* an Highland wife, and others as being her tormentors. It is more then remarkable here that *M*, M. being set at Liberty upon Bail, the very day after she went home, she again appear'd to the Damsel tormenting her in her fits, and continued so to do several days thereafter, particularly upon the *Saturday* being *March* 27 after she was set at liberty: The which day the Damsel was heard name her in the fits and say to her, wilt thou say *God help me poor mad or foolish child as thou saidst the other day before the Judges: art thou wishing the Devil to take me? where is the Habite thou was cloathed with the other day.*

On Sabbath Morning, being *March* 28. the Damsel thorow God's great Mercy towards her, was perfectly recovered, both of all her *Sore* and light Fits; becoming as Well, Sensible, and Composed as ever.

If it shall be questioned, how the *Truth* of all these strange Things is attested? There is none of those Particulars mentioned in the Narrative, but had in the first Draught the Witnesses insert at the end of every particular Paragraph, and attested before the Commissioners for Enquiry at *Renfrew*, by the Subscriptions of the respective Witnesses. But seeing the placing of them so now, would have occasioned the repetition of several persons Names over and over again, & would have made this Narrative swell too much in bulk; Therefore we judg'd it fittest now to set down the Names altogether at the end of the Narrative; & the rather that seing these things fell not out in a private Corner; but Thousands in this Countrey have been Eye & Ear Witnesses thereof to their admiration and raising of their Sympathy, and been fully convinced beyond all debate of a Diabolical influence upon the Affliction of the Damsel: We shall only now make mention of a few, *Viz.* beside the Father, Mother, Grand-mother, and neareſt Relations of the Damsel, and servants of the Family, who were always present with her in her Fits: such of the Commissioners for Inquiry, and of Justiciary as had occasion to be on the place of the Events, particularly the Lord *Blantyre*, Mr. *Francis Montgomery* of *Giffen*, Sir *John Maxwell* of *Pollock*, Sir *John Houston* of *That ilk*, *Alexander Porterfield* of *that ilk*, the Laird of *Black-hall* younger, the Laird of *Glanderstone*, the Laird of *Craigens*, *Porterfield* of *Fulwood*, *John Alexander* of *Blackhouse*, Mr. *Semple* Sheriff of *Renfrew*: And several other Honourable persons of good Sense and prying Witts; such as the Noble Earl of *Marshal*, the Laird of *Orbiston*, the Laird of *Kilmarnock*, the Laird of *Meldrum*, the Laird of *Bishopton* Elder and Younger, *Gavin Cochran* of *Craigmure*, *William Denneston* of *Colgrain*, Dr. *Mathew Brisben*, &c. And many Ministers, who kept days of Humiliation and Prayer weekly in the Family, and sometimes in the Parish Church with the Congregation, *Viz.* Mr. *James Hutchison* Minister of the Gospel at *Killellan*, Mr. *Patrick Simson* at *Renfrew*, Mr *James Stirling* at *Kilbarchan* Mr. *Thomas Blackwal* at *Paisly*, Mr. *James Brisban* at *Kilmacolms*, Mr. *Robert Tayler* at *Houston*; and of Neighbouring Presbytries, Mr. *Neill Gillies*, Mr. *James Brown*, Mr. *John Gray* Ministers of the Gospel at *Glasgow*, while the Damsel was there; Mr. *John Ritchie* Minister at Old *Kilpatrick*, Mr. *Alexander King* at *Bonnil*, Mr. *Archibald Wallace* at *Cardross*, Mr. *John Anderson* at *Dryman*, Mr. *Andrew Turner* Minister of the Place, who was frequently there: besides Mr.

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Menzies of *Cammo*, and Mr. *Grant* of *Cullen*, Advocates: who were Eye and Ear Witneſſes to ſeveral important paſſages of the Damſels Affliction, and the convincing evidences of it's flowing from the Operation of the Devil, and his Inſtruments. The Truth whereof is further Adminiculat by the Progreſs and Iſſue of the Tryal, at which were preſent at ſeveral Occaſions, not only Sir *John Hamiltoun* of *Halcraig* one of the Senators of the Colledge of Juſtice, Sir *John Shavv* of *Greenock*, Commiſſar *Smollet* of *Bonnill*, Mr, *James Stevvart* Advocat, who were concerned in the Commiſsion with theſe others before mentioned: But alſo a great confluence of ſeveral Nobility and Gentry out of the Countrey, ſuch as the Earl of *Glencairn*, the Lord *Killmares*, the Lord *Semple*, *&c.*

And now we are ſure, that after all the pregnant evidences of the truth of this Relation as to matter of Fact, they muſt be perſons very hard of belief that can allow themſelves to deny credite thereunto: And muſtneeds conclude, that there is nothing credible in the World that ever hath been delivered to Mankind or poſterity; and that they reſolve to believe nothing though never ſo fully atteſted which they do not ſee with their own Eyes, and perhaps there are ſome hardned in their prejudicat conceits that will not believe even theſe ſo far as they may have influence to convince them of their Errors; but wiſdom is and will be juſtified of all her Children. And among all Ingenuous and ſober Perſons, We are hopefull this Narrative (which plainly relates things as they fell out without any kind of diſguiſe) will obtain ſuch entertainment as it is truely deſign'd for, *Viz.* That we be hereby more and more confirmed in the Faith of the beeing of God and inviſible Spirits, and admire & adore the wonderful works of God in the Depths of his Judgment, & that there is really a Helliſh Hierarchy & Combination of Infernal Spirits enemies to God; & working all the miſchief they can to Men; whereby alſo, there is an evident Teſtimony giv'n to the Truth of what is related in the Scriptures concerning the ſame, & withall to lament, that thorow the juſt diſpleaſure of our Holy & Righteous GOD, thoſe Devils get leave to break forth with ſo much Rage and Fury, and gets ſo many among profeſt Chriſtians into a helliſh confederacy with themſelves to be the inſtruments of their Malice, and the actors of ſo many Tragedies in the Chriſtian World: To ſtir us up alſo to bleſs and magnifie our GOD that thoſe Devils and their Inſtruments are chain'd and limited that they cannot work all the evil they would, and as long as they will: and therefore to join in Thankſgiving to GOD for His deliverance of that afflicted Family and Damſel. Finally as we are to ſubmit to ſuch Afflictions as the LORD may think fit to meaſure out unto us, by whatſoever inſtruments as in the caſe of *Job*; ſo we are called to Watch and Pray that we enter not into Temptation while we have ſuch Adverſarys going about ſtill ſeeking to devour us, & to rejoyce that we have a *ſtrong protector* the bleſſed Captain of our Salvation, the LORD JESUS CHRIST who hath obtained the Victory over all the Devils in Hell, and hath promiſed all his Saints a ſhare in His Victory, which they begin to have even in time, 1 Epiſtle *Joh.* 4. 4, And he hath given us hope through Grace of a ſpeedy and certain accompliſhment thereof. *Rom.* 16. 20. And therefore when we ſee all theſe things come to paſs. *Luk.* 21. 28. "Let us lift up our heads becauſe our Redemption draweth nigh.

FINIS.

An Abreviat of the Precognition and Report made by the Commiſſioners appointed by His Majeſty's Privy Council for *Enquiry*: And of the *Confeſſions* of *Elizabeth Anderſon*, *James* and *Thomas Lindſays*, tranſmitted by theſe Commiſſioners to the Council before granting of the Commiſſion for the *Trial*. To which is ſubjoined, the ſumm of the Confeſſions of *Margaret* and *Jannet Rodgers*, who did confeſs *during the Trial* of the reſt, beyond Expectation. Together alſo with an account of the Confeſſion and Death of *John Reid*, who made a Diſcovery conform to the former Witneſſes, *after* the Trial was over. And finally, there are added ſome paſſages which fell out at the *Execution* of the Seven Witches who were Condemned.

THE Commiſſioners for Enquiry having met at *Bargarran* in *February* 1697, did chooſe the Lord *Blantyre* Praſes, and took the Confeſſion of *Elizabeth Anderſon*, aged about 17 Years, as follows.

'That about ſeven Yeats ago ſhe ſtayed with *Jean Fultoun* her Grand-mother, 'and playing about the Door, ſhe ſaw a black grim Man go in to her Grand-'mothers Houſe: After which, her Grand-mother came to the Door, called 'her in, and deſired her to take the Gentleman (as ſhe nam'd him) by the 'hand; and which ſhe did, but finding it very cold, became affraid; and 'immediatly he evaniſhed. About a Month thereafter, her Grand-mother 'and ſhe being in the Houſe together, the ſaid Gentleman (whom ſhe then ſu-'ſpected to be the Devil) appeared to them, and fell a talking with her Grand-'mother, by rounding in one anothers Ears: Upon which the Grand-mother de-'ſired her to take him by the hand, being a friend of hers; but *Elizabeth* refuſ-'ing, the Grand-mother threatened, that ſhe would get none of the Cloaths 'promiſed to her, unleſs ſhe ſhould obey: Yet *Elizabeth* withſtood, ſaying, '*The Lord be between me & him*; whereupon he went away in a flight, but ſhe knew 'not how. *Elizabath* was nottroubled for a long time thereafter, till her Father 'deſiring her to go with him a Begging through the Countrey; and ſhe ſaying, 'that ſhe needed not ſeek her Meat, ſeeing ſhe might have Work; her Father 'preſſed her to go alongſt, and took her to a Moor in *Kilmacome*, where were 'gathered together, at that and other ſubſequent Meetings, *Katharine Campbel*, '*Margaret Fulton* (her Grand Aunt) *Margaret Lang*, *John Reid* Smith, *Marga-'ret* and *Janet Rodgers*, the three *Lindſays* (beſide the two Confeſſant ones) *&c.* 'and ſeverals whom ſhe did not know, and the foreſaid Gentleman with them. 'He came to *Elizabeth*, bidding her renounce her Baptiſm, promiſing 'that if ſhe would conſent thereunto, ſhe ſhould get better Meat and Cloths, 'and not need to beg. But (as ſhe declared) ſhe would not conſent. Then 'he enquired what brought her thither, ſhe anſwered, that ſhe came with her 'Father: Whereupon the Devil and her Father went and talked together a-'part, but ſhe knew not where about. Declares, that in that Meeting was con-'ſerted the Tormenting of Mr. *William Fleeming* Miniſter at *Innerkipp* his Child. '*Elizabeth* Confeſſes ſhe was at an other Meeting with that Crew above the

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Town of *Kilpatrick*, with the foresaid Gentleman whom they called their Lord: And that she went with her Father to the Ferrie-boat of *Erskin*; where the Devil with the rest of the Band overturned the Boat and drowned the Laird of *Brighouse* and the Ferrier of *Erskine*, with several special Circumstances thereanent; particularly that some of the Crew would have saved the Ferrier, but one of them, *Viz.* His Mother in Law gainstood it, in regard he had expelled her out of his House a little while before the Meeting. Acknowledges she was present with them at the destroying of *William Montgomeries* Child, by strangling it with a Sea Napkin: where they having entred the House lighted a Candle which was some what Blewish, and *Agnes Naismith* saying, what if the People awake, *Margaret Fulton* replyed, ye need not fear: As also declares, that about five Weeks before the date, her Father brought her on foot to *Bargarran* Orchard, into which they entred by a slop in the Dyke, and where were present the persons before named, *&c.* and the Devil, who told that no Body would see them, at which they laugh'd. At this Meeting they, with their Lord, contrived the Destruction of *Christian Shaw*: Some being for Stobbing her with a Touck, others for Hanging her with a Cord, a third sort for Choaking her, and some intended to have her out of the House to Destroy her; but fearing they might be taken before the next meeting to that effect, their lord (as they call'd him) gave them a piece of an unchristned Child's Liver to eat, (but the Declarant and the other two Confessants slipped the eating of it) telling them, that though they were apprehended they should never Confess, which would prevent an effectual Discovery: And further, severals of them being affraid that the Declarant would Confess, and tell of them as she had done formerly on her Grand-mother, they threatened to tear her all in peices if she did so; and particularly *Margaret Laing* threatned her most. After two Hours, or thereby, they disappeared in a flight, except the Declarant, who went home on her Foot. Confesses likewise, That one Night her Father raised her out of her Bed, and they having gone to the Water-side, took her on his Back, and carried her over the River in a flight; from whence they went on foot to *Dunbritton*, and in Mr. *John Hardy* Minister his Yeard, the crew and their Lord being met, they formed the Picture of Mr. *Hardy*, and dabbed it full of pins, and having put it amongst Water and Ale mixed, roasted it on a Spit at a Fire *&c.* After which her father and her self returned in the same manner as they went. *Declares* the particular persons that were imployed, and most industrious in the several Facts before-mentioned, *&c.*

James Lindsay (aged 14 Years) declares, "That one day he met with the decast *Jean Fulton* his Grand-mother at her own House, where she took from him a little round Cape and a plack; but being grieved, he required them from her again, and she refusing he called her an *old Witch* and ran away, upon which she followed him and cryed that she should meet him with an ill-turn. About 3 days thereafter he being a begging in the Countrey he met his Grand-mother with a black Grim Man, *&c.* Whom she desired him to take by the hand, which *James* did, but found it exceeding cold and was straitly griped, whereupon the said Gentleman (as she termed him) asked the declarant if he would serve him, and he should have a Coat, Hat, and several other things, to which *James* answerd yes, I'le do it, and after this the foresaid Gentleman (whom the declarant knew thereafter to be the Devil) and his Grand-mother went away but knowes not how. Acknowledges he was frequently thereafter at meetings with the Devil and Witches, particularly these mentioned in *Eli-*

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Elizabeth Andersons confession: that their Lord came to *James* at the first publick meeting, took him by the hand, and forbade him to tell: that they contrived before hand at the said meeting the drowning of *Brighouse*, and concurrs with *Elizabeth Anderson* anent the design of saving the Ferrier which his Mother in Law did divert. He being interrogat, declared he did not see *J. K.* and *J. W.* at committing of the foresaid Fact: (And indeed they were then in prison) that they with a Cord strangled *Mathew Park*'s Child; and that the Person who waited on the Child finding it stifled, cryed out *Mathew Mathew, the Bairn is Dead*: *Elizabeth Anderson* concurrs in this particular; and tells that when they had done, they took the Cord with them. Declares, that he was present at strangling *William Montgomeries* Child with a Sea Napkin, and heard *Agnes Naismith* say *drawv the Lurp* &c. That about five Weeks since he was carryed to them in *Bargarrans* Orchard, and concurrs with *Elizabeth Anderson* in what was treated there, anent distroying *Christian Shavv*, and the Charm against Confessing. Likeways the Meeting in *Dunbritton* anent Mr. *Hardy*, is acknowledged by him: And that he has several times appeared to *Christian Shavv* both in *Glasgovv* and *Bargarran*, with the others that did Torment her and put in her Mouth Coal-cinders, Bones, Hay, Hair, Sticks, &c. Intending thereby to Choak her: That he and they did oft times Prick and Stob her in this manner, *Viz.* He had a Needle which if he put in his Cloaths, her Body would be pricked and stobed in that place where he fixt the Needle, and if he put it in his Hair, that part of her Head would be Tormented: That he saw her put out the Pins they had put in, at which time he cryed these words, *Help J. D.* who was also then present: That when the Ministers began to pray in *Bargarrans* House at several occasions, the Devil and they immediatly went away &c.

Thomas Lindsay being below pupillarity, declares the same *Jean Fulton* his Grand-mother awaked him one Night out of his Bed, and caused him take a Black Grimm Gentleman (as she called him) by the Hand; which he felt to to be cold: And who having enquired if *Thomas* would serve him and be his Man, and he would give him a Red Coat, the declarant consented: And the Gentleman (whom he knew thereafter to be the Devil) gave him a Nip in the Neck which continued sore for Ten days. Thereafter one day after his Grand-mothers decease, coming by her House, he thought she appeared to him clapping his Head, and desiring him to be a good Servant to the Gentleman to whom she had gifted him, and forbidding him to reveal it. Declares, that one Night lying in Bed in the house of one *Robert Shavv*, he was awakened out of his sleep and carried in a flight to *Mathevv Parks* House, where were present the particular persons named by him, and concurrs as to the manner of strangling of the Child with *James Lindsay* his Brother: And that another Night being in the House of *Walter Alexander*; he was brought to the strangling of *William Montgomeries* Child, and agrees likeways in the manner of it with his Brother; only he sayes the Sea Napkin with which they committed the Fact was speckled. He likewise concurrs as to the Meeting in *Bargarrans* Orchard about five weeks agoe, and what was acted therein: As also anent Mr. *Hardy*; with this Addition, *That himself turned the Spitt* whereon the Picture was roasted, &c.

It is to be noticed, that as the three Confessants were separatly apprehended upon several occasions, so they (after the obstinacy to discover was abated) did emit these confessions in several distinct places without Communication with, or knows

knowledge of, one anothers confessions in manner mentioned in the preceeding Narrative. The Commissioners did examine them upon *other* trying *questions* that were new, thereby to make experiment of their consonancy or disagreement: But still found them strangely to *accord*. The *Facts* did *fall out* in the manner declared by them, particularly the strangling of the Children, death of the Minister, drowning of those in the boat, and torture of *Bargarran*s daughter mentioned in the Confessions before expresst. Further, the Commissioners did confront them both with *Christian Shaw* the afflicted Girle, and the persons delated (whom they had caused apprehend) and both the Girle and Confessants did accuse these to their *Facts*, and bind them in *circumstances* with great steddiness and congruity tho separatly brought in. The Commissioners did also try some *experiments* anent the Girle her falling in Fits on approach of the accused, as is expresst in the Narrative; and *examined her*, with those who stayed *commonly* about her upon the particulars of her Sufferings: they tryed to cause her write (since she could not say out) the name of a person whom she first called *Margaret* or *pinch Maggie*, and asserted to be one of her chief bourriers; yet upon writing *Margaret* and the letter L, of her Sirname, the Girl was presently taken with a fearful convulsion, the pen being struck out of her hand and her self falling as dead, with groans heavier and sorer then ordinary: After some recovery whereof some Ministers pointed to her a passage of the Bible, but upon essaying to cast her eyes on it, she fell into vehement pangs; till one of the Commissioners desiring the Book might be closed, and that being done she immediatly came to her self, *&c.* Lastly, the Commissioners called before them those persons who *had signed* the passages of the several dayes in the written *Journal* of this Girles Sufferings: and having examined them thereupon, *transmitted* the same with the Declarations of the three Confessants, and several of the passages that occurred in the precognition, to his Majestys Privy Council by whom they were appointed for that effect.

Besides this, the subscrived attestations of Doctor *Mathew Brisbane* Phisician, & Mr, *Henry Marshall* Apothecary in *Glasgow*, did influence the belief of an *extraordinary cause* of these events,

The Doctor on the 31. *December* 1696 tells, that at first sight when he was 'brought, the Girle appeared so brisk in Motion, so florid in collour, so chearfull, 'and in a word every way healthfull, that he could hardly be perswaded she 'had need of a Physician: But within Ten Minuts he found himself obliged 'to alter his thoughts, for she rose from her Seat, and advertised she was instantly 'to be seiz'd with a fit, according whereunto he observed a considerable distention in her left Hypochondre, which in a Trice falling, she was forthwith 'taken with horrid convulsive Motions and heavy Groans at first; which 'afterwards as soon as she was able to frame words, turned into Expostulatory 'Mourning against some Women; particularly *Campbel* and *Nasmith*. Yet 'he thought those Symptomes were reducible to the Freaks of Hypochondriak 'Melancholy, and therefore put her in such a course as was proper against that 'kind of Malady. Upon which being freed, for some time: he was alarumed 'that the Child was returned to Town worse then ever for having his assistance 'He then was frequently with her, and observed her narrowly; so that he was 'confident she had no visible correspondent to Submittes Hair, Straw, Coal-'cinders, Hay, and such like trash unto her; all which upon several occasions 'he saw her put out of her Mouth without being wet; Nay rather as they had 'been dryed with Artifice, and actually Hot above the Natural Warmth of

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the Body; sometimes after severe fits, and other times without Trouble when discoursing with him. When she had not only light Convulsive Motions, but to a high degree, such Rigidity of the whole Body, as we call *Catalepsis*, she did not fancy as at other times, that she saw these persons already named about her: But the upcasting of the Trash abovementioned did no sooner cease, then in all her fits when she was able to speak any, she always cryed out that they were picking or pinching her. He saw her also when free of fits suddenly seiz'd with Dumbness, *&c.* And this he solemnly declares himself to have seen and handled, and were it not for the Hay, Straw, *&c.* He should not despair to reduce the other Symptomes to their proper Classes in the Catalogue of humane Diseases. And in respect of these and some other Specialitys, the Doctor thereafter being adduced upon Oath in the Tryal, Depones, that in his Opinion these things did not proceed from Natural Causes arising from the Patients Body.

Mr. *Marshal* the Apothecary, concurres with the Doctor: And gives some particular instances of his own Observation: And amongst the rest, That the Girle having fallen Head-long upon the ground, as she had been thrown down with violence, fell a reasoning very distinctly thus: 'Katie what ails thee at me, I'm sure I never did thee wrong, come let us 'gree, let there be no more difference betwixt us, let us shake Hands together (putting furth her Hand as if she would take another by the Hand, then taking in her Hand again, she said) well *Katie* I cannot help it, ye will not 'gree with me: And immedatly she cryed, fell into a Swerff, and out of that into a Rage, wherein she continued without intermission for about half an hour; and perfectly recovered. Then she told him, that she saw *Katie Campbel*, *Mansie Nasmith*, &c. and many more; *Campbel* was going to thrust a Sword into her side, which made her so desirous to be aggreed with her; and when the Girle told him this, she instantly fell into another fit as formerly, in which she continued another half hour, *&c.* Dated 1. *January* 1697.

During the *Dependence* of the Trial, *Janet* and *Margaret Rodgers* confessed in this manner. The Commissioners had adjourned for two several dyets; and though they were to meet on the *Third*, yet it was not expected that they would proceed till providence might clear the prisoners guilt by *further testimonys* of those who might come to confess. The very morning of the third Term, the *Rodgers* did confess, which was a *Surprysa* to every one that came up to attend the Court, since these, as they were *Women*, and were not formerly *noticed* as others were; so they confessed of free motion without any persons desiring it of them at the time; they had not such *means* of instruction as were administred to others: And the conjuncture of many circumstances were altogether *Singular*, Their confessions did coincide as to the *Meetings* and *things* acted therein, with the three former confessants, and the other evidences of the visible matters of Fact. Only they were so pointed as to condescend upon some of the pannals whom they did not see at these rendevouzes; and great care was taken to compare their Testimonys with what had been already discovered, and to expiscate their certain knowledge by new interrogators when they were separate from one another *&c.* The whole Crisis had such an evidence that now the Commissioners, with the general approbation of the most intelligent of the Country, who came in to attend the Court, allowed the going on of the Process to debate of the *Relevancy*, and putting seven of the best known criminals, for whom an Advocat appeared, to the knowledge of an *Inquest*: According whereunto there were some days allowed for the Pannals giving in their Informations

mations upon the relevancy: and at the Term; there was a great time spent in adducing the Probation An account whereof is referred to another place.

Upon the 21 of *May* 1697. After tryal of the Seven Witches, there is an Attestation Subscrived by Mr. *Patrick Simson* Minister at *Renfrew*, *Walter Scot* Baillie there, *&c.* of this import. *John Reid* Smith at *Inchenman* prisoner, did in presence of the saids persons and some others; Declare, that about a Year ago the Devil (whom he knew to be such thereafter) appeared to him when he was travelling in the Night time, but spoke none to him at the first encounter. At the second appearance he gave him a Bite or Nipp in his Loyn; which he found painfull for a Fortnight. That the third time he appeared to him as a Black Man, *&c.* Desired him to engage in his Service upon assurance of getting Gear and Comfort in the World; since he should not want any thing that he would ask in the Devils Name: And then he renounced his Baptism, putting the one Hand to the Crown of his Head, and the other to the Sole of his Foot; thereby giving himself up to Satans Service: After which the pain of the Bite or Nipp ceased. He told that hitherto there was none others present; but thereafter he was at several Meetings, particularly that in *Bargarrans* Yeard, about the time when there was a Fast for *Chrisian Shaw*, where the Devil appeared in the same kind of Garb as he first appeared to him, and they consulted *Chrisians* Death either by Worrieing or Drowning her in the Well; and the Devil said, he should warrand them, that they should neither be Heard, Seen, nor Confess, to which end he gave every one of them a bitt of Flesh, that the Declarant got, but let it fall, and did not Eat it. Thereafter in presence of the Laird of *Jordanhill* the Minister, *Mr. Andrew Cochran* town Clerk, and Baillie *Paterson*, he owned his former Confessions: And being enquired of *Jordanhill* how they were advertised of their Meetings, he said that ordinarly at their Meetings the time of the next was appointed; but for particular warning there appeared a Black Dog with a Chain about his Neck, who tinkling it, they were to follow &c. And being enquired by the Minister if he did now wholly renounce the Devil (for he had formerly told how Satan had not performed his promise) and give himself to JESUS CHRIST, and desire to find mercy of God through Him: he assented thereunto. It is to be observed that *John Reid* after his Confession had called out of the prison Window, desireing Baillie *Scott* to keep that old Body *Angus Forrester*, who had been his fellow prisoner, closs and secure; whereupon the company asked *John* when they were leaving him on *Friday* night the 21 of *May*, whether he desired company or would be afraid alone, he said he had no fear of any thing: So being left till Saturdays Forenoon, he was found in this posture. *Viz.* sitting upon a stool which was on the Hearth of the Chimney, with his feet on the floor and his Body straight upward, his shoulders touching the lintel of the Chimney, but his Neck tyed with his own neck-cloath (whereof the knot was behind) to a small stick thrust into a clift above the lintell of the Chimney; upon which the Company, and especially *John Campbel* a Chyrurgeon who was called, thought at first in respect of his being in an ordinary posture of sitting, and the neck cloath not having any *run-loup* but an ordinary knot which was not very strait, and the sticks not having the *strength* to bear the weight of his Body or the struggle; that he had not been quite dead; but finding it otherways, and that he was in such a *situation* that he could not have been the actor thereof himself, concluded that some extraordinary cause had done it, especially considering that the Door of the Room was secured, and that there was a *board set* over the Window which was not there the night before when they left him.

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There ſhall little be added anent what paſt at the Execution of the ſeven Witches, becauſe there is no *Subcribed* Atteſtation thereanent: And the deſign of the Publiſhers has been to advance nothing but what *ſtands Warranded* by Teſtimonies of known Credit beyond Contradiction. Yet this much is *Notour*; that when they were going to the Stake, 'one of the *Lindſays* was overheard to ſay to the other, *Now Brother it is time that we ſhould Confeſs, ſince our keeping it up will ſerve us to no purpoſe*, or the like Expreſſion; To which the other Anſwered that they ſhould *never do that*, *&c.* And *Margaret Lang*, before & about Execution, let drop at *Minnts* of the Devils *Inadvertance*, 'That when the Devil firſt appeared 'ſhe knew him not to be ſuch till afterwards; that he gave her the inſenſible Marke 'found upon her Body: She yielded to engage her ſelf in his Service by a Co'venant, and beſides publick meetings ſhe had been above 30 times in private 'Conferences with him. Being enquired by a near Relation of her own a'nent her being in *Bargarran* Houſe tormenting *Chriſtian Shaw*, Anſwered 'in theſe Words, the Devil having an abſolute Power and Dominion over me 'carryed my ſhape whither he would; and it is known how ſhe Confeſſed unnatural Luſt, and profound Hypocriſy, *&c.* Tho truely it did appear from her concurring Mein and Circumſtances, that theſe things fell from her at Seaſons, when Natural Ingenuity and the vigour of Truth got the *Start* of Satan's *Manacles*. So *Agnes Naiſmith* &c. Frequently told the Miniſter, that their Heart and Tongue *were bound up* in ſuch manner, that they could not expreſs what they would: And ſometimes it appeared by ocular Inſpection of their Viſage, that *convulſive Dampts* did ſeize their Heads upon getting out the initial words of any ſuch attempt.

There are two remarkable inſtances in the Caſe of *Katharine Campbel*, who was chief *Inſtrument* and Author of the Girles trouble. *Viz.* An Eminent Miniſter diſcourſing before famous Witneſſes to *Katharine*, and enquiring if ſhe did not diſtinctly remember the Godly Counſels, and gracious Admonitions; which *Chriſtian Shaw* while in a fit mentioned in the Narrative, *Page*, 13. gave her at a certain time, and inſtancing ſome particulars thereof: Her anſwer was with heavy Groans, *Yes I Remember*. But being urged wherefore ſhe would not Confeſs the reſt as well as that paſſage; and finding her ſelf thereby to be *Gravelled*: She began to Retract and ſeemed Dampt, not being able to Extricat her Anſwer beforementioned. This occurred while ſhe was in priſon, before the tryal: And after it, ſhe in preſence of ſeveral Witneſſes, did get out theſe words, *That the Doom pronounced on her was moſt juſt*, and that *ſhe could not free her ſelf of Witchcraft*: But upon ſuch attempts ſhe fell down Dead, ſtrangly diſtended, and that ſix or ſeven times Succeſſivly, with a Suddeneſs, that was both Surpriſing & Convincing to the Spectators: At which occaſion it was obſerved, that immediatly before her falling into theſe fits, and upon her Eſſaying to ſpeak when there were Charges laid Home on her *Natural Conſcience*, her Mouth ſeemed to *Contract*: And ſhe uttered heavy Moans; whereupon did follow her Convulſion: but after raiſing out of them, ſhe turned to be Obſtinat and Inflexible: And whenever there was any appearance of her being more *Pliant*, the foreſaid fits did overtake her.

There is one thing further; which does aſtruct the Credibility of what theſe Confeſſants averred, *viz.* That there are ſome others, both Men and Women in the Countrey, who have confeſſed and told the ſame things before ſome of the beſt Gentry and others, whoſe Care could proceed no further for want of *Authority*, which in due time will, no doubt, *not ſuffer theſe Witches to live*, whom

whom Divine and Human Laws have so justly ordained to be cutt off. Wherefore till the Event of a further Discovery, there shall only be added some passages which were omitted in the Narrative, tho they be attested by some of the same persons that were Witnesses to the other Matters mentioned therein.

Particularly, the Girle declares, that in one of her Conflicts with the Devil, he told her how a certain Minister (for whom she had a speciall respect) did Compile his Sermons through the Week, what Books he chiefly made use of; and several other Matters anent his Method of Study in his Closet that no Mortal could know by ordinary Means: By which, no doubt, Satan did partly design (tho by a very false Argument) to raise the esteem of Books above Sermons collected out of them: Concealing in the mean time, both the Gift of improving Helps, and the Blessing promised to the Hearer of the *word preached*. When the Lad *Bargarran* received the two pieces of Red Cloath, that the Girle had torn from one of the Witches Sleeves as is above-narrated; she locked up the same and keeped the Key. Notwithstanding of which Caution, some Friends having come to Visit the Girle, and being desirous to see the foresaids pieces of Cloath; she being in one of her fits, laughed, and told that her Mother needed not to seek for them in the place where they were locked up; the Witches having taken them away, and laid them in a Corner of the Cellar; and accordingly being searched for, they were found in the particular place condescended on. There was another like passage which occurred to a Friend, who came in with *Bargarran* for soliciting an Commission from the Council: For he having brought alongst with him those pieces of Cloath, and buttoned his Pocket on them at Night; and put it in security as he thought; behold they are amissing in the Morning; but after search are found in a good distance from the Pocket; though none visible had been in the Room to open it and carry them off. Finally, this Girle did in discourse, discover a great Sagacity; yet accompained with extraordinary Modesty: And amongst other instances, she did observe the Doors and Windows open and shut again, upon the Witches entry thereat: There was at no time such a number of them about her as the Room might not very well contain, with the visible persons that were present therein: She observed them to shift their place with a great Agility, when any other came *into it or attacqued* upon her pointing them: And she often averred from the instance of the spirit that spoke to her above her Head, told their Names, and gave her other means of discovering of them, *&c.* That Satan does often contrive their Ruine, by the most *undiscernible Methods* he can, because an *open Deed* would fear others to undertake with so faithless a Master, *&c.*

An Account of

TWO LETTERS

Which contain a

SUMMARY

Of what appeared moſt

MATERIAL or CURIOUS

In the Trial of the

SEVEN WITCHES

Who were Condemn'd to be Execute in the *Weſt*.

THE Truth of the ſtrange Things mentioned in the preceeding Narrative was at firſt, carefully ſearched into only by *private Perſons* : But at laſt became ſo *notour*, that, upon Application founded on a *Journal* of theſe extraordinary Events, atteſted by many of the Gentry in the Country; the Council gave a Commiſſion for *enquiring* thereanent.

The Honourable Perſons to whom this was recommended, did, with great Impartiality and Exactneſs, make a *Report*: which, in *Providence*, proved a *Mean* of moving the Government to notice the Execution of Juſtice on ſome of theſe Witches, who otherways, might have lurked without being diſcovered.

For, hereupon, the Council directed a ſecond Commiſſion, for *Trial* of thoſe who appeared to them to be moſt loaded by the preliminary Probation adduced on the firſt. Several of theſe Judges were not only perſons of *Honour*, but alſo of *ſingular Knowledge* and *Experience*: Conform whereunto they did proceed with *ſingular Caution*, and were ſo far from Precipitancy in the Affair, that, after *ſeveral Diets* of Court, they adjourned to a *long Term*, that, in the mean time, the Priſoners might be provided of Advocates.

Accordingly an Advocate compeared for them, and managed their Defence with all the Accuracy that could be expected. There were above *Twenty Hours* imploied, at *one* Diet, in Examination of Witneſſes: And the Inqueſt being incloſed, did conſume about *ſix Hours* in comparing the Probation. Whereupon Seven of the moſt notorious Criminals were Convict and Condemned.

The Crimes libelled and found proven againſt them, were not meer *ſpectral Imaginations*, but open and obvious *Facts*: viz. The *Murders* of ſome Children, and Perſons of Age; and the *Tortureing* of ſeveral Perſons, particularly

Bargarran's Daughter: And both these, not at a *distance*, but *contiguously* by *natural Means* of Cords, Pins, and the like. *Besides* the other *ordinary Works* of Witchcraft, such as Renouncing *Baptism*, entering in *Contract* with, and *Adoring* the Devil under a Corporeal shape, *&c.* which could not but be sustained Relevant in *Scotland*, since there is an expres Statute *Parl. 9. Act. 73. Queen* Mary, appointing the pain of Death to such.

To make the Probation the more convincing, it was adduced orderly in *three Periods*. The First consisted of *unsuspected Witnesses*, who proved *Facts*: From whence it was necessarily inferred, That there was *Witchcraft* in the Case. The Second did include, *also unexceptionable* Witnesses, who deponed upon *Facts*; which made it *probable*, if not necessary, that the Pannals were *the Witches*. The Third did comprehend *six positive* Testimonies, of these who did *See* and *Hear* these Witches committing the Malefices libelled.

The only valuable Subject of Debate, was anent the Import of these *last* Testimonies; five whereof were by *Confessants*, who had been at the Meetings in which were committed the Crimes libelled; and the sixth of *Bargarran's* Daughter, who was one of the Persons maleficiat. The *antecedent part* of the Probation was by Witnesses beyond exception: And the Judges upon a long Debate did sustain Four of these Six *only cum nota*, and Two of them to be Examined *without Oath*. So nice were they in favours of the Pannals Lives, since some of these Witnesses might have been admitted in such a Crime without any *quality*, by the most scroupulous Judicatory in *Europe*. But all things were carried on in this Procedures with Tenderness and Moderation: For even the *Advocates*, who were sent to prosecute the Endytment by His Majesty's Council and Advocate, did not act with the Byas of *Parties*; but on the contrary, showed an *equal Concern* to have the Pannals assoilzied, if it could be found compatible with Justice.

This is the Reason for which the Publisher doubts not, but the two following Letters (the one whereof gives a Compend of the Advocates Speech to the Jury, and the other, of their Answers to the Objections against the Confessant Witnesses) will afford a satisfying view of the chiefest part of the Trial: since the Objections which were, or might have been made are therein *Stated* and *Answered*, or Anticipat and *Prevented*; and the intended Brevity would not permit to print at this time the whole Process, which being extant upon Record, any who are Curious may have easy access thereunto.

There is scarcely need to take notice of a late Scurrilous Pamphlet, that has been printed in *England*, and pretends to give an account of those proceedings: For any who reads it may easily find, that the Author has been either *Fool*, *Knave*, or *both*, there being neither good *Language*, *Sense*, or *Truth* in the most part of it.

LETTER First.

SIR,

YOU having told me, that the odd Passages which occur in the *Woll*, have put many of your Neighbours and your self, upon reading all the Books you can get treating of Witchcraft: And therefore desired me to transmit to you my Observations at the *Court*; I shall not pre-occupy your Opinion by

by giving them in my own Form; but herein I ſend to you the exacteſt Duplicat of the Advocates Speech to the Inqueſt that I could obtain; and by the next Poſt you ſhall have ſomething more Curious: *viz.* A Collection of their Anſwers to the Objections againſt the Six laſt Witneſſes, that were adduced for concluding the Proof: Having theſe, you will want little that could be agreeable to ſuch an accurat Guſt as yours is.

The SPEECHES *to the* INQUEST *Were of this import.*

Good Men of Inqueſt,

YOU having ſitten above Twenty Hours in over hearing the Probation: And being now to be incloſed, where, it's like, you will take no ſmall time to Re-conſider and Compare it: We ſhall not detain you with ſumming up the ſame in *particular*; but ſhall only ſuggeſt ſome Things, whereof it is fit you take ſpecial notice in your peruſal of it: *viz.* 1*mo* The *Nature of your own Power*, and the *Management* thereof. 2*do*. The *Object* of this Power which lies before you; wherein you are to conſider, in the Firſt place, Whether or not there has been *Witchcraft* in the Maleſices libelled? And, in the Next place, whether or not *theſe Pannals* are *the Witches*?

As to your Power, it is certain, that you are both *Judges* and *Witneſſes*, by the Opinion of our Lawyers and Cuſtom: Therefore you are called out of the *Neighbourhood*, as preſumed beſt to know the Quality of the Pannals, and the Notority of their Guilt or Innocence. Your Oath is, That you ſhall all Truth tell, and *no Truth conceal*; which does plainly imply, That you are to Condemn or Abſoilzie, conform to your proper Conviction. Such is the excellent Conſtitution of Juries in *England*: and ought to hold more ſpecially in this Circumſtantiat Caſe, where there is ſuch a *Chain* of different Kinds of Probation concurring againſt the ſame Pannals, as will appear by the Review thereof in its proper place

We are not to preſs you with the ordinary Severity of threatning an Aſſyſe of *Error*, in caſe you ſhould *Abſolve*; but wholly leaves you to the Conduct of God and your own Conſciences, and deſire that you proceed with all the *Care* of the *Pannals Lives* that is poſſible for you, as the Honourable Judges have ſet to you a deſirable *Pattern*, in their great Caution thereanent.

As to the *Probation it ſelf*; you ſee, that it is divided in Three Parts, *viz.* The *extraordinarineſs* of the Maleſices: The *Probability of the* concurring *Adminicles*: And the Clearneſs of the *poſitive Probation*.

As to the Firſt part, The Maleſices, or *Corpora delicti*, are proven by *unexceptable Witneſſes*, to have fallen out in ſuch an odd and *extraordinary manner*, that

it points out some other Cause, than the ordinary course of Nature, to have produced these Effects.

For clearing of this, particularly in relation to the Torments of *Margarran's* Daughter, you may consider not only the extraordinary Things that could not proceed from a Natural Disease, which ly proven before you; but also several other Matters of Fact, which is *notour*; have been seen by some of your selves, and ly here in a Journal of her Sufferings: Every Article whereof is attested by the Subscriptions of Persons of entire Credit, before the honourable Commissioners appointed by His Majesty's Privy Council, for making Enquiry there-anent

This Girl's throwing out of Hair, Pins, and Coals of *greater heat* than that of her Body or Blood; as also so *dry*, that they appeared not to have come out of her Stomack; nor had she any *presi* of Vomiting at the time, that she declared the same to have been put in her Mouth by her Tormenters: Is deponed by Doctor *Brisban*, in his Opinion not to proceed from a Natural Cause.

She was not Tormented by any of the Pannals after their *Imprisonment*: Except two Nights by *Katharine Campbell*; which being a Surprise, it was thereafter discovered, that these two Nights the Jaylor's Wife had got out *Katharine Campbell* to Spin in her House.

She having been speaking to one of her Tormenters as present (tho' Invisible to the By-standers) and asking how her Tormenter had got these clouted Red Sleeves; she suddenly gets up, takes hold of them, the Company hear a shreid, and she pulls away two pieces of red Cloth, which all the By-standers beheld with amazement in her Hands: Nor was there any other peice of this kind of Cloth to be found in the Room at that occasion.

She told, that her Tormenters were giving her a Glass of Sack, an Orange-pile, *&c.* (thereby ensnaring her to accept of a Favour from them) and accordingly she was seen to *move* her Lips, and to have the Orange-pile betwixt *her Teeth*; tho' there was no visible Hand that could have done it.

She advertised before hand, that one of her Tormenters was to be at the Door at a particular Hour: And that another of them was in the Kitchin; before any did tell her thereof: which accordingly fell out: And these being brought to her presence, became obnoxious to the ordinary Means of Discovery.

When her Glove fell down from her, at a time that several Persons were about her: it was lifted again by a Hand invisible to them.

She was not only transported throw the Hall and down Stairs, without perceiving her Feet to touch the Ground: But also was hurried in a flight *up Stairs*: And when a Minister endeavoured to retain her; he found a sensible weight, besides her own Strength, drawing her from him.

When she complained, that her Tormenters had bitten and scratched her; the *Steads* of the Nails and Teeth were seen upon her Skin, with Blood and Spittle about the wounds, which were above Twenty four; while neither her own, or any others Teeth that were visible, could have done it.

She was most vehemently distorted, upon attempting to Tell, or even Write the Names of her Tormenters: yet that ceased as to any of them, how soon that person was *blinde* delated; and particularly she had liberty, after many painful Attempts, to Accuse *Margaret Laing*, how soon a Charm of Hair to restrain her, which *Margaret* had left behind the Door, was found and burnt; the Girle having told it to have been *tint*, in manner mentioned in the Depositions.

She

She did throw out no more Hair after the finding of a Ball of Hair, of the same *Colour* and *Kind* with that thrown out by the Girle, in *Katharine Campbel's* Pocket, with Pins in it, and the Burning of it.

After *Agnes Naesmith* had prayed for her, she did appear to her, but not *torment* her.

She foretold, that her Tormenters had conserted to throw her in a Fit, (whereof they did premonish, of design to fright her to Renounce her Baptism by the terror) at a certain *Hour*, and had left one of their Number to execute it: According whereunto, there was a Woman with a Red Coat seen under a *Tree* in the Orchard, and the *Torment* was brought on at the time appointed.

When she told, that there was something tormenting her under the Cloaths; the Spectators saw, the Bed-cloaths *move* in an extraordinary manner, after the Girle had been raised out of them.

When she complained that she was Beaten: the By-standers heard the *Noise* of the Stroaks

She cried out at a time, that her *Theigh* was hurt: And one of the Company having searched her Pocket, found a Knife; but unfolded: However, having folded up the same, and put it in a second time; she cries of new: And upon the second search, it (tho' secured by the Spring) is found open, to the great wonder of the Beholders; since they did watch, that no visible thing could have possibly opened it.

She told of a Charm under the Bed: And accordingly it was found in the the shape of an Egg, which melted away being put in the *Fire*: She told also, that her Sister that was boarded abroad, had Charms put above her in the House, and would not recover of the decaying Sickness till she were brought out of it: According whereunto, the Child being brought home, she straight way *recovered*.

She told of their meeting in the Yeard of *Bargarran*, for Consulting anent the destroying of her: And accordingly the Confessants have deponed, That they *did meet* and consult her Ruine in that place.

The Story anent her telling, That the Commissioners, tho' at three Miles distance, had granted a Warrand to the Sherriff, to apprehend one of her Tormenters: Her telling so perfect an account of the Sheriff, and of Mr *Guthrie* who was with him, while her Eyes were cieled and fast: Her being in excessive Torments (as she fore-told) till that Person was apprehended, and immediatly therenpon, tho' at many Miles distance, her telling that her Tormenters were now taken, betwixt Twelve and One a clock in the Morning; and the Sheriff when he returned, did declare the Seisure to have been about that time: Is so notour and so well attested, that we need only to put you in mind thereof.

Her falling in Fits upon the sight, or touch of her Tormenters, was no effect of Imagination: For she was fully hood-winked with a Cloak, so as she saw no Body whatsomever; yet upon the approach of her Tormenter, she immediatly fell down dead: Whereas she remained no ways startled upon the touch of any other: Which Experiment was tried for ascertaining this *Mean* of Discovery.

Finally, she is naturally *Saggacious* and *Observant*: And discovered her Integrity in face of Court. For when the President asked, Whether or not she knew one of the Pannals Name that was to be pricked? She answered, That tho' she knew her well enough of her self; yet *one had told* her the Name of this Pannal, when she was sent for to be confronted with her: So far did this Girle discover

her

her averſion from any thing that might ſeem intended to aid unfairly the natural Evidence of Truth; and her Firmneſs to the outmoſt againſt Temptations of becoming a Witch; particularly againſt the laſt Aſſault of Satan, wherein he perſwaded her at leaſt to go to their Meetings; and ſhe anſwered, that ſhe would not follow ſuch a baſe fallen Creature: And he rejoining, that ſhe would go to Hell however for her other Sins; and ſhe anſwering, that he was a Liar from the beginning, and the Blood of JESUS would cleanſe her from all Iniquity: Whereupon he diſappeared, and ſhe perfitly recovered upon the Sabbath thereafter, was an happy End put to this fearful Tragedy of Witchcraft, and confirms to Conviction, the Reality of it.

As to the *Murdering of the Children* and the *Miniſter* libelled; you may obſerve ſeveral *extraordinary* things appearing in them; particularly the Witneſſes depone, the Miniſter to have been in *exceſſive Torments*, and of an *unuſual colour*, to have been of ſound Judgement; and yet he did tell of ſeveral *Women* being *about him*, and that he heard the noiſe of the Door opening, when none elſe did hear it. The Children were *well* at Night, and found *Dead* in the Morning, with a little *Blood* on their Noſes, and *Blaes* at the roots of their Ears; which were obvious Simptoms of Stranglings: Beſides that it is teſtified, that the Mother of one of them, cried out, *Matthew, Matthew, the Child is dead*. And the Houſe of the other was *Whitened* within, with ſifting of Meal the Night before. Both which Particulars were told and diſcovered, by the Confeſſants, *before* the Witneſſes which now concur with them, in it, were examined.

2*do*. The *Second* part of the Probation conſiſts of ſeveral *Adminicles*, proven by *unſuſpected* Witneſſes, which lead us to ſuſpect thoſe Pannals to be *Witches*, as ſo many Lines drawn from a Circumference to a Center, and as an *Avenue to the poſitive Probation* thereafter adduced: And theſe either ſtrick at the whole Pannals in *general*, or ſome of them in *particular*. In general we need not enumerat all theſe Adminicles, but remit you to the Probation, which is ſo full thereanent; only you will be pleaſed to notice, that it is clearly proven, that *all* the Pannals have inſenſible *Marks*, and ſome of them in an extraordinary manner: That moſt of them have been long *Reputed* Witches, and ſome of them *delated* in 1689. by a Confeſſing Witch, whoſe ſubſcribed Confeſſion has been produced. You ſee that none of them do *ſhed Tears*, nor were they ever diſcovered to do it ſince their Impriſonment, notwithſtanding of their frequent Howlings: So that it is not a ſudden Grief or Surpriſe. And finally, that the Girle fell in Fits of Torment upon the Pannals approaches to her, and that ſhe did name them all frequently, either out of, or in, her Fits.

In *particular*, you ſee how *Katharine Campbell* was *provoked* by this Girl's diſcovering her Thift; whereupon ſhe has brought in the reſt of her Confederats to act the following Miſchiefs: How thereupon *Campbell* did *Curſe and Imprecate* in a terrible manner: How ſhe *ſtayed out of her* Bed at Night, and was frequently *drouſie* in the Morning: How ſhe was named by the Girle, particularly the two Nights that ſhe was *out* of Priſon: The Ball of Hair was taken out of her Pocket and burnt; whereupon the Girle's throwing out of Hair did *ceaſe*: She could not expreſs one word, even when on her Knees, of Prayer, for the Girl's Recovery: And the inſenſible Marks on her, were very remarkable.

Agnas Naſmith did not torment the Girl *after* ſhe had prayed for her: She was *repute* a Witch, and hath the *Marks*. She came early in the Morning to *Bargarran*'s Cloſe, when by her refuſing to go in, it appeared ſhe had *no buſineſs*

Yea, it is plain, that she had a Resentment, for her not getting a greater *Alms* the last time she was there. The Girl declared *ex incontinenti*, that *Nasmith* asked her Health and Age; which in these Circumstances was a shrewd Presumption of her evil Design: And she acknowledged herself to have done this, when she asked the Age of another Child; wherein by Providence she was befooled, since that which she thought would have been an Excuse, tended to discover her Guile. And lastly, *after this appearance* of *Agnes Nasmith*, the Girl did take her first Fit, and nominat her amongst the first Tormenters.

Margaret Laing, that great *Impostor*, has been a Master-peice of the Devil: She has confessed *unnatural Lust*, which is known to some of your number: She sat near the Door where the *Charm* of Hair was found which the Girle declared did keep up her Tongue; and upon burning thereof it was loosed. The Girle fell in Fits upon her approach: She has notable Markes; particularly one which the Confessants declare she lately received; and by Inspection it appears to be *Recent*. When she came from her private conversation (no doubt with the Devil) she *Raged* as if she had been possest, and could not but declare, That she expected a *violent Death*: She *looked* in the face of *James Millar*'s Child, and asked her Age, whereupon that Child sickned the same Night, and named *Margaret Laing* on her Death-bed: It appears she was ready to show to *Janet Laird* a sight of her Mother, who had been three Years *Dead*. And finally, She has been taken in several *Lyes* and gross *Prevarications*; particularly you may remember, how six hours ago; when the Witnesses were examined on the Ball of Hair found with *Katharin Campbell*, a Gentleman (Mr. *Stewart* of) heard her say to *Katharin* in the Ear; This is *well wair'd on you* because ye would not put it away when I desired you *&c.* Which the said Mr. *Stewart* did openly testifie in Court upon *Oath*; notwithstanding whereof this impudent Wretch had the confidence to deny it, tho *Katharin Campbel* also *Confest*, That she had pulled at her, and had spoke some what to her, to which she did not advert. This was no wonder, the Witnesses deponing at the time being clos's against *Katharin*.

Margaret Fulton was repute a Witch, has the Mark of it; and acknowledged in presence of her Husband, that she made use of a *Charm*; which appeared full of small Stones and Blood. That her Husband had brought her back from the *Faries*; and her Repute of being a Witch is of an old date; besides her being named often by the maleficiat Girl.

As to the *Lindsays* they all have the Mark: And were all of a long time reputed to be Witches. *John Lindsay* in *Earlsch* was accidentally discovered by the Girles taking a *Fit* upon his coming to the House. *John* and *James Lindsays* were dilated by a confessing Witch in *Anno* 1687, Which Confession is publickly read before you: And there was *Money* given to the Sheriff-depute for delaying of the pursute. *James Lindsay* appeared to *William Semple* suddenly, and *Flew about* like a Fowl, for an opportunity to strick him, in revenge of the quarrel mentioned in the Deposition, and at last prevailed to strick him dead over a Dyke. And finally which is a remarkable *Indication* both of Truth and Providence, the very Witnesses adduced in the *Exculpation* for the *Lindsays*, deponed so clearly against them, even *beyond* the Pursuers Witnesses, that their Advocate was stunned thereat; and thereupon *desisted* from craving any moe Witnesses to be examined on the *Exculpation*.

It is true, some of these Indications may be in *One*, and others of them in *Another*, either from Nature or Accident, and yet that person not be a Witch:

But

But it was never heard or read, that all these Indications, which are so many discoverys by Providence, of a crime that might otherways remain in the dark, did ever concur in one and the same *Individual* Person that was innocent: Yea on the contrary, they, by the Wisdom and Experience of all Nations, do als convincingly discover a Witch, as the Symptoms of a Leprosie consented by all Physicians, do unfold the Person affected with the same to be Leprous. But *Esto*, They are not sufficient of themselves; yet their *Tendency* and *Meaning*, being cleared and applyed to their proper cause, by a liquid and positive Probation: There wants no more to determine you anent the Pannals guilt. And therefore,

3tio. As to the *Third* part of the Probation, We remit the *Positive Depositions* of the Confessants, and against whom they do concurr, wholly to your own Perusal and Examination: Only you would be pleased to notice. *1mo*. Some things which very much *Sustain the Credibility* of their Testimonies, arrising from their examination in Court. *2do*. We shall explain to you the import of the word *Nota*, which is added to the Interlocutor of the Judges admitting these last Witnesses.

As to the *First*,

Elizabeth Anderson is of sufficient Age, being *Seventeen*; yet so young and pointed, that her Deposition appears no effect of *Melancholly*: She accused her *Father* to his face when he was a dying in the prison, as now there are two of her Aunts in the Pannal, which certainly must proceed from the strength of Truth, since even *Dives* retained a natural affection to his relations. She went on *foot* to the Meetings with her Father, except only that the *Devil* transported them over the Water of *Clyde*, which was easy to the Prince of the Air who does far greater things by his *Hurri-canes*; she tells that *Montgomeries* House was *Mealie* when his Child was strangled: And she declares that she never renounced her *Baptism*; but was carried along by the Concussion of a Parent: So that nothing can be objected against her testimony in any Judgement, much less in an *Excepted Crime*,

James Lindsay it is true, is of less import: yet by his *Weeping* when he came in and was admonished of the greatness of his guilt, it appears that he had an *Sense* of it: he hath a natural *Precipitancy* in what he speakes, yet that is commonly the concomitant of Ingenuity, as importing his Expressions not to be fore-thought. He *Concurrs* in most things with the others, and yet he has declared, that he saw *Not Margaret Fulton* at *Dumbartoun*. &c. Which implys that he does not file the Pannals all at Randome, but tells what occurred to his Senses. *&c.*

Janet and *Margarets Rodgers* are instances of a singular providence, for they did confess the same *Morning* that the Court did last sit, of their own proper motive, there being neither Ministers nor Judges beside them at the time. *Agnas Nasmith* is *Janets Relation*, and she tells that she never saw *Katharine Campbel*, as *Margaret* declares that she did not see *John Lindsay* in *Burloch*: which plainly demonstrats that they tell only the dictats of their *Natural Conscience* arrising from discretion and knowledge of the true matters of Fact: They both professed their *Repentance* last Sabbath in the Church: And do persist with a great Firmness, as you see their *Deportment* in deponing to be Congruous and Exact.

Thomas Lindsay and *Christian Shaw*, being under Pupillarity, we did not press their being put to an *Oath*; yet you saw that they did declare in Court against

these

these Pannals in such an *Harmony* with the rest of the Deponents, and gave such an cause of their knowledge, That it is certain their own youngness in years *Addi*, extreamly to the the Credit of their Testimony: Because thereby it is incredible, that they could have contrived or executed the acting *of concert*.

As to the *Second*,

Since these Witnesses are admitted by the Judges; it necessarly implyes, that they meant them to be probative; only they adjected the words *Cum nota*: That is, you must notice, or *Notandum est*, That there must *something else* concurr to prove the Guilt of the Pannals, by and attour the Depositions of *any two* such Witnesses: But so it is, that all the Adminicles on which you have seen Probation led, for more then Sixteen Hours of your time, are strenghtening evidences, of those Witnesses Credebility, and cannot but have been *Noticed* by you as Illative of the same things which they depone. Whereby the *Nota* is fully taken off by the concurrence of *four other positive Testimonys*, agreeing with that of two of these VVitnesses: by the *Extraordinaryness* of the *corpora delicti*: by the *Probability* of the Adminicles: And finally by the whole *Chain* of this Affair, and the Sparkles of an Infernal Fire, which in every place have broke out of it.

It is true there are some few of the Adminicles that are proven only by one VVitness. But, as to this, you may consider, *1mo*. That a VVitness deponing *de facto proprio*, is in Law more credited than any other single VVitness: And this is the present Case as to some of the Adminicles: *2do*. The *Antecedent*, *Concomitant*, and *Subsequute*, circumstances of Fact, do sustain the Testimony and make the *Semi-plenary* Probation to become full. But *3tio*. The other Adminicles undoubtedly proven by concurring Witnesses, are *per se*, *sufficient*: And therefore you saw us, at the desire of the Judges, forbeare to call the far greatest part of our Witnesses; because the time had already run to so great a length, and it was thought that there was already enough proven of presumptions: For it may als reasonably be imagined, that the most Regular and Curious Scheme had emerged from the fortuitous concourse of Atoms roving without Rule, as that so many Indications should *Concenter* against each of these Pannalls, & yet they remain Innocent of Witchcraft,

Now upon the whole, you will take notice, that Presumptions being vehement, make a more certain Probation then Witnesses: Because Presumptions are *Natural Emanations* of the thing it self, which cannot be brybed: Whereas Witnesses are obnoxious: So in our Law there was one condemned for Thift, an other for falshood, and a third for Murdering of a Child, meerly upon Presumptions, as is related by *McKenzie* in his Criminal Treatise: much more may presumptions astruct the faith of, and take off the *Nota* from, *positive Witnesses*: For it is a gross mistake, that several proofs, which have each of them *some* Import, may not be joyned to make a full Evidence, the same way as two small Candles in a Dark room, will not suffice; yet several others being added to them, will make a sufficient light, to discover the murderer: Two Boys will be able to carry a Weight which one of them would not be able to sustain; as two units make a full number: One Witness of whatsoever dignity proves nothing; yet out of the Mouth of two or three Witnesses every Truth shall be established. And finally, Tho one Coal make not a Fire that can do the work; yet several Coals added to it encrease the Flame; which is hoped will be sufficient for the operation.

VVe shall therefore leave you with this Conclusion, That as you ought to beware to condemn the innocent, and ought to incline to the safest side: So if these Pannals be proven legally guilty; Then *quoad bygones*, your Eye ought not to spare them, nor ought you to suffer a VVitch to Live: Aud, *as to the future*; you in doing otherways would be Accessory to all the Blasphemies, Apostacys, Murders, Tortures, and Seductions, *&c.* VVhereof these Enemies of Heaven and Earth, shall hereafter be guilty, when they have got out. So that the question seems simply to come to this, whether upon your Oath *de fideli*, you can swear, That the Pannals, notwithstanding of all that is proven against them, are not guilty of Witchcraft? In the Determination whereof we pray GOD may direct you to the right course.

The Inquest being inclosed near six Hours, brought in their Verdict to Court, that they found the Libel proven.

I am &c.

LETTER SECOND.

SIR,

I Have Collected, according to my Promise, what appeared to me most *Specious* in the Reasonings, either in Court, or private Conversation, anent the receiving of the Confessants as Witnesses. You are not to imagine, that the Pannals were Condemned on the *Faith of these*: For I do believe the Probation by unexceptionable witnesses, led antecedent to this last, was so pregnant, that the Pannals might have been Condemned on it, tho' these last had not been adduced.

I may have missed the *Energy* of the Argument sometimes, in a Case which in it self is so *abstruse*: However, you have it in such manner as *I* was able to penetrat thereunto; as follows.

IN order to the more satisfactory Answering of the Objections made against these last Witnesses, we shall first, lay before you the *State* of the Case: And, then, cleat up the *Determination* of it.

As to the First. The Question is not, whether *Partners in the Crime*, or others mentioned in the Objections, can be a Concluding Proof of *themselves*, tho' two of them would concur as to the same Act of Witchcraft: But whether the *Corpora delicti* appearing already to imply Witchcraft, and the extrinsick Adminicles being so pregnant, to infer that these Pannals are the Witches: there concurring such Characters, as by observance of all Nations and Ages, are the Symptoms of a Witch; particularly the *Marks*, *Fame*, not shedding of *Tears*, *&c.* which are Discoveries of Providence of so dark a Crime, that like Avenues lead us to the Secret of it. And finally, when six persons of different Ages and Stations, five Confessants, and the Girl, do, when *separatly examined*, agree in their Answers to every material Question that is put to them, even tho' it be *New*; so that it could not be concerted: We say, whether or not in such a Case may Witnesses be received to put the Cape-stone on the Evidence by a *positive* probation, of a Matter of Fact which is the Object of Sense, tho' otherways they be liable to exception, if such Extraordinariness of the *Corpora delicti*, Clearness of the Adminicles, and of the Diagnosticks of *Witches*; did not proceed them; as you have seen proven before you that they do?

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The Case is not, whether these VVitnesses would be Habile in an *Ordinarie* Crime, which *commonly* falls to be exposed to other VVitnesses, then those concerned in it: But whether they can be received in this *Extraordinary, Occult*, and *Excepted Crime* of VVitchcraft; wherein there are two special Cases to be noticed; *viz.* Sometimes the Acts thereof are open, and admitt the choise of VVitnesses; such as Charmes used in the Day-time, when the Actor is visible. But that part of VVitchcraft; whereby VVitches meet in the Night-time, Adore their Lord, contrive their Malefices, and accordingly thereafter execute them, when other VVitnesses are asleep, or the VVitches themselves are covered from sight: VVe say, that this can be no otherways proven than by these that are Intimat to it, joyned to the *positive* Proof and Adminicles beforementioned.

VVe do not alledge, that Persons *altogether* destitute of Knowledge and *Natural Conscience* are to be admitted in any Case, such as Infants, Furious, Fatuous, *&c.* Neither do we contend That *Thomas Lindsay* and *Christian Shaw*, who are under Pupillarity, should be put to an Oath; for they are only to be examined separatly before the Court, upon Interrogators, by which it may appear, whether or not they coincide with the four other Confessants, that are to depone before them; and this is the *Pannal's Advantage* in case of Disagreement: But we insist, that any Person above Pupillarity; giving Evidences of considerable Knowledge and natural Conscience (which is a sufficient Fond for all the Credit that we need in this Case, that is already almost fully proven) is to be received as a VVitness.

As to the 2*d*. we shall make this as clear as Noon. 1*mo*. From *Reason* and the *Nature* of the thing. 2*do*. The unanimous Judgment of *Lawiers* in all Nations and Ages. 3*tio*. Our *own* Customs and Decisions. And 4*to*. The *Singularity* of this Circumstantiat Case.

As to the *First*. The going to, and coming from Meetings, especially on *Foot*; the falling down, and worshiping the Devil there, under a *Corporeal* Shape (which he had when he tempted our SAVIOUR to do it) The actual *Murdering* of Children by a Cord and Napkin; and the *Tormenting* of Others by Pins, *&c.* Are plain Objects of Sense: And therefore the Senses are to be believed anent them. For as *Reason* hath Things Intelligible; and *Faith* Things Supernatural; so the Senses have Things Corporeal for their Object, whereanent they are to be trusted, ay and while it be *Proven*, that the *Appearance* is *Impossible*, or that the Witness of it, is an *Impostor*. It is an part of the Witches Purchase from the Devil, that they cannot be seen at some occasions: So that the Abominations comitted *then* would remain unpunished, if such VVitnesses were not admitted. It cannot be thought that VVitches (who of all Criminals are the most *obstinat to Confess*) would venture the loss of their own Lives, by deponing against Others, against whom they have *no special picque*; yea, for whom they have particular *Affection*, as several of the Pannalls are some of the VVitnesses Relations. Nor has the Devil any *peculiar* interest to Instigat them thereunto: For severals of the Pannalls have confessed *other execrable Crymes*: VVhereby it cannot be supposed, That Satan would be divided against himself. GOD in his ordinary Providence has taken such care of publick Judgments, that the Enemy of Justice his *special Power* ceases thereabout, as appears by the VVitches not being able either to do more Harm, or escape, after GOD's Ministers begin to counteract Satan's Instruments by Imprisonment. And finally, the oddness of the Malefices, the Concurrence of the

Adminicles; and the existence of Matters of Fact, wherein these Confessants (tho' not knowing the same otherways) do *agree with other* unexceptionable Witnesses, *&c.* Do sufficiently attract their Credibility. For as Falshood being a Crime, is never presumed; so a person found true in many things, is still presumed to continue such, till the contrary be evinced.

As to the second, *Socius criminis &c. admittitur si delictum sit nefandum Men: A J: Q: l. 2d. t. C. cas: 474. N. 27. seq: aut occultum & veritas aliunde haberi non possit Mas: vol: 1. Con: 466. N. 6. aut difficilis probationis Farin: lib. 2. Op: Criminalium. Tit. 6 Q. 63. N. 28. Mas: vol. 3d. Con: 1360. N. 4th. Menoch J. 2d. Cas: 116. l. 1st. Q. 58. nocturno tempore comissa quæ dificilis dicuntur probationis Boer: decis. 62 N. 6. Menoch D. Cas: 116. N. 14. Ideoque non solum presumptiva & conjecturata probatio sufficit, verum etiam inhabiles admittuntur Farin. l. 2d. Tit: 6. Q. 55. N. 40. Mas: l. 2 Con: 1124. N. 13. idem in dilictis commissis in Eremo, Nemore, Monte aliove loco secreto, Gomez: Var: res, Tom: 3d. C. 12. N. 21. Far: D. Tit: 8. Q. 62. N. 55. sed occultum non dicitur quod actu non intervenerint, at quod de Natura delicti vel ratione loci & temporis alii testes habere non potuerint: ut est Maleficium in quo socius criminis &c. admittitur. Men: l. 2d. Cap. 5. Cas: 474. N. 33 Campeg: te test: Reg. 86 Fallen. 6. Cootus de Test. part 4th. N. 97. Oldindorp. de Test. Til. de personis testium N, 21.* In a word all Lawiers who wrot particular Treatises on Witchcraft in *Germany, Italie, Loven, France,* and *Spain,* &c. Do conclude, that inhabile Witnesses; and particularly *Socii* are to be admitted in Witchcraft; only the strictest of them do think, that this Admission is to be *cum nota*; or as *Delrio* in the place cited for the Pannals expresses it *ex hu solu*, the Judge is not to Condemn, nor do we require it.

As to the Third. we have the Testimonie of our Famous *K. Ja: 6th. Demon: lib. 3. C. ult.* telling us, That it is *our Law*, that Boys, Girls, infamous Persons, *&c.* Are not to be rejected any more in Witchcraft, than in humane Iese Majesty, even tho' they assert others to have been present at *Imaginary Meetings*: Because this *Supposes* their having entred into a *Pre-contract*: He sayes that Satan's Mark, and the want of Tears, are pregnant Aids to the Discovery, *Quod Deus præter naturæ ordinem voluit esse secretæ inimanitatis judicium, & eo non permittente ut facinorosissimi criminis pertinaciam dissimulent.* He gives an instance, of a Girle, who having named several Witches in her Fitts, they were all Condemned upon other concurring Adminicles. This is not a common Author, but a Man who as Curious, was *Exact*: As Prudent did not publish such things without the Approbation of the best Divines and Lawiers; as a Prince, is to be Credited anent the Law of His own Countrey; and as a King has determined any Dubiety that might have remained in this Point, alse farr as the Law of our Government will permitt.

But further our Judges and Lawiers have followed His Majesty: For in all the Processes in the Journals; Fame, and Delation, and the *Mark*, are still sustained, as most pregnant Presumptions; whereupon, and a very small Probation besides, Witches have been frequently Condemned. So in the Processes against the Bewitchers of Sir *George Maxwel* of *Pollock*, and *Hamilton* of *Barns*, *Anno*, 1677. *Socius criminis*, tho' under Age, is sustained to be a Witness: And Witnesses are adduced before the Inquest for proving, that the Mark was found upon some of the Witches. *Women* and *Minors* have been received by multitudes of Decisions cited by *McKenzie. Tit. prob: by Witnesses*, and *Tit: Witchcraft*. And he also cites Decisions, where, in paralel Cases, *Socii Criminis* and

other

others inhabile, were admitted; particularly in Treason and in Falshood: And all Lawiers conclude, That witchcraft is as much an *excepted* crime as these.

As to the *4th* What ever inhability these witnesses might be under, it is fully made up, and they rendred unexceptionably Habile *by the Chain* of this whole Business. It is true *one* Man throw the concurrence of corrosive Humors, may have an insensible Mark; *another* be enviously defamed: A *Third* may through sudden Grief or Melancholy, not be able to weep, *&c.* A *Fourth* may be loaded with suspitious Circumstances, when extraordinary things fall out in the Country: And a *Fifth* may be deponed against by two false witnesses, tho' neither of these separatly be truely witches. But by the known Observation and Experience of *Mankind*, none except witches have had the unhappie Medley and Concurse of *All* or *Most* of these *Indicia*, and ordinarly, and for the *greater part*, Witches have them: So that since the Rules of Judgment are established upon that, *Quod plerumque fit*, which does obtain *till an exception* be apparent in a special case, the Conjunction of these in *one person*, does as plainly give his Character, as the most certain symptoms of the plainest Disease, being universally concerned in all parts of the World, points out to us that the Haver of them is a person truely affected with that Desease, whereof he hath the concurrent Diagnosticks. In a word, one or other of these may concurr, in the Innocent; but no Writers do *Attest*, that *all of them* have concentred in any other person in the World but a witch: And on the other hand, they taking place in Witches, through *all parts of the World*, must proceed from a *common*, and not from a peculiar Humor or Cause.

The *specifick Aptitude*; of some of the nicest of the *Indicia*, which appeared from the Probation already led, to discover a Witch, do serve to clear the ground of the Worldes Observation anent them. Particularly the Devil, as Aping God, imprints a *Sacrament* of his Covenant: Besides that, commonly this mark being given at the *first Meeting*, does by its intolerable Pain, force the Witch to a second Randevouz for curing it, at which the poor wretch being under this furious necessity, fixes the Paction by renewing it with Deliberation, having been *diverted* in the mean time from considering the Horridness of the first Engagement by the *Pain*. The inability to shed Tears may be a Characteristick of *Hardening*, tho' not always in the case of Christians; yet in these who have ceased to be such; lest the Devil giving them such words of Scripture and Prayer as many have, it should be impossible to discover their Hypocrisy; and that is not Satan's own interest, since by this Discovery occasion is given to Buffo on the Profession of Holyness. A Report often arises without ground, but a *Constant Repute* that keeps footing, implyes for the most part a surer Cause; especially when it is of Persons below Envy; and by Persons above Calumny. The Girls falling in fits at approach of the Pannalls might proceed from *Antipathie*, arising from the poisonous Steems of the witch *accustom'd* to produce that Effect through a vertue affixed thereto by the Devil, by Conjunction of natural Causes (the same way as the invisible Pestilence does operat) or his *promise* of casting the Girl in Fitts at the Witches presence, might have been *General*; whereby the Witch was eventually befooled and discovered, as it often falls out: For Satan envies even their temporal Felicity, and fears lest by continuing here, they should be rest out of his hands by Conversion. When they come to perceive the Delusion of his Promises to make them rich and the like, *&c.*

There was one thing further which was tried before your Lordships, *viz.* None of the Pannals that were tried (tho' most Saggacious and Knowing, and

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perfect in Memory, so that it could not proceed from Ignorance or Forgetfulness) could make out the attempt of saying the Lord's Prayer; which may either be a *secret Judgement* for Renouncing their first LORD, after whom it is peculiarly Denominat, or by *restraint* of their new lord, who may think that *too special an Homage* to his Adversary. But we have hindered you too long with that which is not necessary: For this being incontravertible *Law* and Custom, there needs no Philosophy to support it: Since Legislators do Reason, but Subjects must Obey: And both the Fool and the Lazie (who have neither *Read* nor *Thought* enough to understand this Subject) are to be left to their own Chimera's: Yet lest they should *insult*, we shall Answer in their fashion, such of the Objections as the Pannals Advocate thought any ways worthy to be repeated in this place.

Whereas it is objected, that *Delrio Sect.* 5. § 4. says, That *Socii* are not to be admitted witnesses *ad condemnandum*; especially considering, that the Probation ought to be *luce meridiana clarior*,

It is answered, that the place it self confutes this Inference in the present Case: For it says, *Ex his solis non est procedendum ad condemnationem, scio contrarium communiùs teneri & in praxi obtinere*, &c. So that it is evident, 1*mo*. That the common Opinion and Custom is in the contrary, even when there is no other probation, but by the Partners of the Crime. Yet, 2*do*. we are not so straitned but subsume in his very words, *ex his solis* we do not desire the Pannals should be Condemned; but your Lordships see these Witnesses we are to adduce are not *soli* or *alone*; for the Probation led these last Sixteen Hours, are so many *Concomitants* and Discoveries of Providence, which astruct and make up any defect in their Credit that can be desiderat. Hence, 3*tio*. The Meaning of that Maxim (which is Metaphorical, as appears by the words, Clarior *luce meridiana*, an *equal* Clearness being sufficient) is fully Answered, and takes place in the present Case: For the Extraordinariness of the *Corpora delicti*, Pregnancy of the Adminicles, and Pointedness of the positive Probation, being conjoined; there is not a Clearer Proof upon Record in any Nation, than that to which, it's hoped, these will amount.

Whereas this Alledgance is enforced, by pretending it were of dangerous consequences to allow such witnesses to prove meeting with the Devil, since Satan might have represented others by their *false shapes*.

It is Answered.

1*mo* That we are not straitned in this; because there are many other Articles proven, which could not have been falsified. But if we give some scope to Reasoning even in this point; it is to be considered, that the Rules of Judgement are established upon that which for the most part does still obtain; and *Rules* are to be followed, till an *exception be proven* in a particular circumstantiat Case. But so it is, by the Experience and Observation of the wisest Divines, Lawiers, Philosophers, Phisicians, States-men, Judges and Historians, at Home and Abroad (that are too wise to be imposed upon, and too Ingenuous to deceive us, when they all concurr in the same matter of fact) beside the Testimony of Witches themselves every where; makes the Apparitions of Witches to be commonly and mostly *real*; so *Delrio* tells us *lib.* 5. § 16. *Illusio rarissimè contingit, ita Jaquerius, Comenius, Sprengirus Sienffeldus*. &c. And therefore the Testimony of the Senses is always to be credited anent them, ay and while it be canvelled. For *single or few* instances of false Representations to the Senses esteeming them to be true, or a possibility of Appearances being false, can

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no ways invalidat the Rule eſtabliſhed upon Experience, which is common, and for the *moſt* part, whereby no exception is to be preſumed till it be proven in a *ſpecial* Caſe; ſince a *Wonder* does not ſubvert the Proof drawn from the *common courſe* of Nature; Logick admits not to argue a *Particulari*, or from *poſſibility* to Exiſtence; Law puts the burden of proving *Simulation* on the Affirmer, and that which *ſeldom* occurrs, is not conſidered by the Legiſlators.

For illuſtrating of which, itis further to be conſidered, that for the *moſt part* and *ordinarly*, the Witches are *perſonally exiſtent* in the places where they appear; becauſe it's more *eaſy* for the Prince of the Air to tranſport them in his Hurricanes which he can raiſe, as is plain in the inſtance of *Job* (who was put in his *power*, *i. e.* his *natural Power* without Delegation) forming a *Fame* upon their Face, whereby the violence of the Air may be diverted from chocking them: Than to form the curious *Miniatur* of ſuch various Tranſactions on their Brain: The difficulty whereof is the greater, that all their *Fantacies* are not diſpoſed at all times the *ſame* way; and they have not the *Seeds* of this work, unleſs they had once acted it in reality. It is both the greater *Crime* and *Pleaſure* to act in Truth; which therefore the Devil & Witches do rather choiſe (unleſs the Place be farr diſtant, or the Party indiſpoſed,) and this *de facto* is atteſted to be ſo, by the Writers and Witches in all Nations and Ages, as ſaid is.

2*do*. Notwithſtanding that the *Rule* muſt hold, till an *Exception* of Exculpation be evinced, *quoad* a particular Perſon, by evidencing that the reall *Appearance* was in that ſpecial Caſe a true *Miſtake*; yet this Exception is *ſufficient* for ſafty of the *Miſrepreſented*; ſince the ſame providence which permitted the the Affliction, will order the Out-gate and Exculpation; either by the Aeriall Bodies not byding the *touch*, or ſome other *diſtinction*, as Providence commonly allowes the Devil to perſonat only with *cloven Feet*; or that the Apparition was ſolly to one *ſingle Witneſs*, who cannot be a Proof; or that the Innocent can prove *alibi*; or Finally the *Notour Charracter* of a *Samuel*, will *purge and diſpel* the Aſpetſions of Satan, contrived of purpoſe to diſcredit the Evidence of *Senſe*, by which alone his Inſtruments can be diſcovered. Eſpecially this Charracter being joyned to the other Circumſtances of the providence; ſuch as, when good men are diſguiſed they are moſtly *paſſive* in the Scene and out with thereof: Whereas Witches are perſonally *active* in their *common Life* by ſuch Words and Deeds as (in conjunction with theſe Appearances) conſpire to make us know and diſtinguiſh them from the truely Good; ſince theſe Witches open *Profanity*, *Naughtineſs*, or *unvailed Hippocriſy*, being cleared by *Fame*, ſealed by the *mark*, and confirmed by the other diſcoveries of the *Adminicles* that ly proven before you, do ſtill make an Land-mark betwixt the Children of Darkneſs and Light. So *Delrio lib. 5. Sect. 16. N. 5.* tells of *Athanaſius* and St. *Germanus*, againſt whom Probation was adduced for *Sorcery*, but Providence did canvel it. It's a famous inſtance of *Suſanna*, *repreſented* by the Elders; which tho not in the Caſe of *ſpectre*, yet agrees in the *Rationale*. The Repreſentation by *Pharo's* Magicians had *Concomitants*, by which they were diſcovered and confounded. But laſtly, ſuppoſe that God in the deepths of His Wiſdom (to Convince the Error of Nimious *ſelf Confidence*) ſhould permitt all neceſſar Probation to concurr againſt an Innocent; yet the Judge following the Faith of Proofs eſtabliſhed by Divine and Humane Laws, is altogether Innoxious: Since this Caſe being very *Rare*, the *Evill is leſs* than the eſtabliſhing a Principle, by which moſt of all theſe Monſters could not be cut off.

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Upon the whole, It is certain, That as tho' oft times *false Witnesses* set on by the Devil, have taken away an harmless Life, by accusing it of *other Crimes*; yet the Testimony of Witnesses must still be credited till they be redargued; so these Appearances of Witches with the other Specialities before exprest, being proven, ought to be esteemed *Real*, till the fallacy be established. Especially seing there are Examples in Ancient and Modern History of Satan's Representing the *best of Men*, as committing *Murther*, *Sugerie*, &c. *In effigie*; so *Delrio lib.* 5. *Sect.* 16. *N.* 5. relats, That St. *Silvanus* was represented by the Devil, as committing a *common* Capital Crime: And the like of a Monk: whereof there are several Modern paralel Instances; yet this cannot enervat the *Rule* and *Faith* of publick Judicatures, founded on no more but upon the sight of the like Appearances; and any Argument against the Probation in Witchcraft, will equally hold against the Probation of any other Crime whatsomever: Wherefore the Rules of them both must be *common*, as to beleiving the Senses fortified, *ut supra*; *till* their *Error be Individually discovered.*

Finally, the Certainty is noways diminished by the *extraordinariness* of the Appearance to the Senses: For in *Law* and *Nature* Reality and not Simulation is presumed, till the contrair be made appear by proving the thing not possible in Nature, or tho' it be possible, that it is actually false. This is answer enough to those who place a great part of their small Wit in nonsensical arguing against all Divine Authority; But writers further illustrate that the extraordinariness of a Matter of Fact, does not exclude it's Reality's being the Subject of the Testimony of Witnesses, in our *Saviours Miracles*, Transfiguration, Walking on the Waters, standing in the midst of the Disciples while the *Doors* were shut, and arguing Assurance by Their Senses, That a Spirit had not *Flesh and Bones*, tho' indeed the *surer* Word of prophesy did put these beyond doubt.

Nor could it be alledged for the Pannals (tho they had the last word, as perhaps they have not, in Objections against Witnesses, since therein *rei sunt actores* by attacquing the Witnesses *presumed Liability*) That it's not conceivable, how the Girl or Witnesses could *see* what the *by-standers could not behold*: Beside the impossibility of the real Bodies entering at *close Doors and Windows*, or not *intercepting* the sight of what is at its back.

For to this it would be answered,

1*mo*. *Proven facts* must not be denyed, tho' Philosophers have not yet *certainly* reached the Invisible *manner* of their Existence: So in *Nature*, the Load-stone draws the Iron, the Compass turns always to the Poles, *&c.* In *Scripture* the Angels (and the Devil was once such, retaining as yet his *Natural powers*) smote the *Sodomites*, that they could not *see the Door*; tho they saw the *House*. *Balaam's* Ass perceived the Angel that stood *undiscovered* to himself; and the *Rod* thrown down by the Magicians of *Ægipt*, was no doubt seen by themselves, tho invisible to the by-standers Which *holding of their Eyes*, Interpreters explain to have been done by natural Means; and yet the Manner thereof is certainly difficult.

However, it is also certain, that if a *possible way* can be proposed, the Reality of a proved Fact is not to be contradicted: And this can be done in the the present Case: For,

2*do*. Satan's *Natural* Knowledge and *acquired* Experience, makes him perfect in *the Optick*, and *limning*: Besides that, as a *Spirit* he excels in Strength and Agility; whereby he may easily bewitch the Eyes of others; to whom he intends

read that his instruments should not be seen in this manner as was formerly hinted: *viz.* He constricts the Pores of the Witches Vehicle, which intercepts *a part* of the Rayes reflecting from her Body; he *condenses* the interjacent Air with grosser Meteors blown into it, or otherways does violently *agitate* it which drowns *another part* of the Rayes: And lastly he *obstructs* the optick Nerves with Humors stirred toward them: *All which joined together* may easily intercept the whole Rayes reflecting from these Bodies, so as to make no impression upon the common Sense; and yet at the same time, by *refraction* of the Rayes, glyding alongst the *fitted sides* of the Volatile Couch, wherein Satan transports them, *& thereby meeting* and coming to the Eye, as if there were nothing interjacent, the wall or chair behind the same Bodies may be seen; as a peece of Money lying out of sight in a Cup becomes visible how soon the *medium* is altered by pouring in some Water on it. Severals of your number do know, that the Girle declared, that she saw and heard the Doors and Windows open at the Witches entry; when no doubt the Devil had precondensed a *soft stopage* on the Eyes and Ears of others, to whom that was unperceived.

So *Apollonius* escaped *Domitians sight*; and *Giges* became *invisible* by his Magical Ring. *John* of *Sarrisberrie* tells us of a Witch, that could make any thing not to be seen: and *Mejerus* relates another, that had the like power. Some *Italian* Witches of *greater then ordinary wit* confessed to *Grillandus* the *Devils* opening Doors and Windows for them, tho the more *Ignorant*, by a Fascination, think themselves. *Others* of this. Whence it ought not to be doubted by any reasonable Man what in all Times and Places is so uncontestible, Fact.

Finally the Pannals could not insist, that these Confessants are to depone only on their *Imagination*, which can prove no more against themselves or others then a *Dream*.

For still its to be minded, that there are other Proofs to which this is only necessary as a consonant adminicle. But further *Arg. causa* It is answered, that the alledgeance is a mistake; seeing they declare plain matters of Fact obvious *not only to one* but *several* of their Senses: *viz.* Some of them went the greatest part of the way to these meetings *on foot*: they there *saw* and *touched* their confederats, they heard their Combinations to Destroy and Torture the Infants, Girle and Ministers. They returned on *foot* again: and even when they were carried fore or back they *knew* on the next day that it was no Dream, the same way as all *other Mortal* discover the difference. But moreover this is adminiculate by *some real effects* of a personal Presence, as you have seen in the *probation*: And it is yet further cleared by the Journal of *Bargarans* daughters Sufferings; which was attested before the former Commissioners, and is notour in the Countrey; particularly the Glass of *Sack* and *Orange pile*; the *peices* of the clouted Sleeves; the words expressed by the *Keeper* on the sudden Murder of the Child; which are constantly *told* by some of the Confessants; as also the Houses being *Mealie* that Night. The Girle tho *hood winked*, her falling in Fits at their approach, *&c.* And others, which shall be pointed at to the Assyze, conjoyned together, can be ascribed to no other cause then the *real existence* of the Witches persons in the place: Unless it be said, that Satan *might possibly* have *foisted* and *suborned* all these; and thence it be concluded, that the Devill did *actually so*, in which case the *Objectors* joine the Persons that bottom their Opinion on *Imagination without* any *positive* ground of the reality of what they fancy; yea *against* positive grounds of belief in the contrary; which arguing from *Possibility* to *Existence* is already sufficiently exploded.

Whereas for sustaining the Objection it is likewise alledged, That the confessants having been in the *Devils service*, and *renounced Christ*, they are not Capable of the Religion of an Oath,

It is answered,

1*mo*, In the rules of *Charity &c.* The Confessants tho once Witches, yet now they, at least the Majority of them have ceased to be such, having had the *use of means* by the Ministers and Word, and *actually declared* their Repentance, and the Devils ceasing to molest them; particularly *Elizabeth Anderson* was only carried alongst violently by her Father, and *stood out* to the last against her renouncing to her Baptism, or consenting to these Crimes which were contrived in their meetings. *Janet* and *Margaret Rodgers* do testifie a great remorse and avowed the same last Sabbath in *the face of the Congregation*. So those *three are sufficient* whatsoever might be said against the other two, especially if we join the *improbability* either of hazarding their own lives or the *Devils sending* them out against these Pannals, or their destroying their own *relations*: as was remarked before, But:

2*do*, Whether they remain Witches or not; It is certain by Reason and Experience that the Devils *peculiar influence* ceaseth in and about *judgement*: by the common course of providence: And therefore the Authors before cited admit Witches whether penitent or not.

3*tio*. All the defects of their hability is supplied, and the intireness thereof compleated, by their testimonies being so wonderfully *administrat*; particularly the confessants are *constant* from the first discovery; *uniform* in so various circumstances not only with themselves, but with the *Girles*: They declare nothing but what is probable, most of the Pannals having been reputed Witches, all of them having the Mark; and one or other of them (to whom the associats *delighted* in mischief, never missed to join) having had particular *Irritations* to take revenge by the torture and deaths libelled: Besides the *other adminicles* of guilt already proven before you. The confessants were *threatened* to retract by the Pannals themselves and their Friends: besides the *bad usage* from others in the Countrey. They concurr with the maleficats testimony, and amongst themselves, even when interrogatt *singly*: and upon *new things*: as severals of your number have tryed the experiment: on this head *Delrio, lib* 5. §. 16. N. 5. wisely observes, *quamvis tam facile foret demoni plures decipere quam unum tamen non est consentaneum Deus hoc usque permittere ne omnis ratio probandi talia delicta occulta judicibus adimatur; hoc enim est dissentaneum providentiæ divinæ.* The Reiteration of the Acts which they declare anent some persons whom they never saw except in these congresses, & yet whom *they* know now on the *first sight*, is unaccountable if they were falsaries: And that they are not such is further astructed by some of the Pannals being delated by a confessing Witch in *Anno* 1687. And you know that others delated by these confessants were lately brought in guilty by the Verdict of a former Inquest. *&c.* which are so many *joint proofs* of these witnesses integrity, and makes an chain of evidence and moral demonstration both against Error in themselves and delusion in relation to others, &c.

There were some things objected out of the Law of *Scotland*, of which also I shall give you some touch.

Whereas it was alledged, That *irretiti criminibus capitalibus*, and so under the Pursuers power, cannot be admitted to be Witnesses: Conform to a statute in *Regiam Majestatem*,

To this it was answered, That we need not say, that these Statutes have not the force of Law, except in so farr as they are received by Custom; unless conform thereto. A Laik cannot Witness against a Clerk, or *e contra*, &c. Nor need we make use of that which is Obvious, *Viz.* That these Statutes are only common Rules in ordinary Crimes; which have their Exception in all Occult and excepted Crimes, such as Witchcraft, *&c. Nam omnis regula subverti potest*, and particularly this Rule is actually so restricted in the Case of Witchcraft, by the Opinion of Lawiers and Customes before-mentioned, which are the *best interpreters* of Laws: For if this Application should hold, *socius criminis* could never be admitted: But we positively deny, that those Confessants are *under our Power* or Influence; seing *Elizabath Anderson* is not Guilty of Witchcraft, for any thing that does appear: The *Lindsays* were never indicted for it; and the Dyet was deserted against the *Rogers*; as the whole Commission is to Expyre against the first of *June*, betwixt and which time, they are to proceed no further then this particular tryal. So that this Objection evanishes to smoak.

Whereas it is pretended, That the *Rogers* cannot be received, because not given out in the List of Witnesses; conform to the Regulation, whereby the Pannals might have proven their Objections by their Exculpation.

It was answered, 1*mo*. This Objection ought to be repelled; because, besides that the Act speaks only of Criminal Lybells, and not indictments, which with the List of the Witnesses may be given in farr shorter time then the Additional List has been given to the Pannals, *being Prisoners*: This Act is interpreted by the *common Custom* of the Justice Court; of giving additional Lists after the first, upon shorter time then this has been given. As is particularly attested by *James Guthry* Macer, who has given them, and who being a *Person in Officio*, his Testimony is to be Credited in what relates to his Office: so that the old Custom confirmed by a Decision. 3. *August* 1661, where *Alexander Forrester* was cited *apud acta* against a Witch, continues *quoad* this point, as is related by *McKenzie*, *pag.* 529. But 2*do*. Any Objection that the Pannals pretend against these Witnesses, is *injure*, or may *instantly appear*. 3*tio*. The Case is altogether extraordinary and Circumstantiat: For these Witnesses had not Confessed: And so were not existent under that Reduplication when the principall List was given out: whereby the Act of Parliament can only be understood of Witnesses, that were then existent. And finally the Pannals got a *general warrand* of Exculpation for citing of any Witnesses they pleased, and they have had several Days since they got this additional List, so that they might have cited Witnesses to prove their Objections, were it not the truth is; they *have none*; besides these that are *common and before Answered*.

Thus I have given you *hints* that your own *reasoning* (which I know to be refyn'd) may *improve* and *apply*, so as to dissolve the quibles which the *petty wits*, who have not *Soul enough* of themselves to penetrate into the true light of what is *recondite*; may raise against it: It being their common talent either to Skipp over the *Surface* of *Mines*, or, otherways, to tear assunder *some appurtenances* of a Scheme, and then presently pronunce it *Mortally Maimed*.

I must confess that none could be more *sceptical* anent the Truth of such odd things as I had heard; nor inquisitive for canvalling the *Reality* and *Explications* of them; then I was *before* my attendances at *Bargarrans house*, and the several dyets of Court; and my *Conversation* with some of these concerned thereanent. But *now*, after all that *I* have *seen*, *reasoned*, and *heard*; I do acknowledge my self

entire

entirely captivate by the dictats of *natural understanding* and *common sense*, into a *sound mind* and perswasion, *that*, as there is such a thing as *Witchcraft*, so it was eminent in its forementioned *Effects*; and the seven Pannals were some of the *Witches*.

I have troubled you little with my *proper Observations*; yet lest you should think me either too *Lazie* or *Peevish*, I shall make one, *and it is*, that I do not think the greater part of the condemned prisoners will ever fully Confess: Of which Conjecture I have two chief grounds, *Viz.* That they are neither Ignorant nor *Melancholick*; but on the contrary, some of them would seem to have been once enlightned before they fell away, so that if this be a *Sin unto Death*, there is no appearance that they will glorify God by acknowledgment.

Severals of them are of singular *Knowledge* and *Acutness* beyond the common levell of their Station: Particularly *Margaret Lang* did make *Harangues* in her own defence, which neither *Divine* nor *Lawyer* could reasonably *Mend*: Yet I thought that when they spoke in a matter of *any concern*, their *Eyes* stood *Squint* & *Fixed*, as if they had been turning their *Ears* and *attentive* to a *Dictator*. Their answers to the trying Interrogators put to them, were *Surprisingly subtile* & *Cautious*: Tho indeed, by the *industry* of some of the Judges and Lawiers, they were at *occasions* involved in *Lyes*, *Prevarications*, *and Contradictions*; which might have proceeded either from Natural or preternatural *Causes*. Some of them were esteemed in the *Country* very *Sagacious* and *Exact* in their Bussiness: *Margaret Lang* having been a *Mid-wife*, and one of the *Lindsays* having acquired a *considerable Fortune* by his *Tillage* and *Trade*: Yet it was noticed, that there did commonly break out of their *covered Course*, something *Odd* either of *Iniquity* or *Affectation*; and *Lindsay* did finely enough get off from the sherriff when he was formerly accused in 1687.

Melancholians are lovers of Solitude; *Witches* of Society, and Feasts: These are commonly Pale and Heavy; many of these *Corpulent* and *Voluptuous*. Witches are *Hard* to Confess as knowing their Guilt; Melancholians delight to discover their horridest Dampts, because they think them *no Crymes*: The ones Confessions *Every-where* are *Uniform*; the other's Phantasms are as *various* as their Humors. Finally, Witches teach their Trade; whereas *Conceits* would *Die* with them, and could be no more *conveyed* then the Humor which is the Specifick cause thereof. As these *distinguishing Characters* do hold in the *General*, so in this particular Case there are several *others*: Such as, most of the Pannals were of *Middle-age*, one of them not much above Twenty; and the first Confessants are known to be Young: Whereby *Dottage* or *Melancholy* are less to be suspected; yea was morality impolsible in many of the Cases. For the *Facts* which the *Confessants* had *formerly declared* before the Commissioners for Enquiry were sworn to by *other unexceptionable Witnesses* before the Commissioners for the tryal; and the Circumstances were such, that the one *could not know* what was *to be* deponed by the other: As it's already manifest, that the *realt Effects* in several passages of *Bargarran's* Daughter were not possibly *producible* by any Imagination or Humor; and it is specially in this Case, that neither the *Pannals* nor *Confessants* were *Distempered* by being keept from *Sleep*, *tortured*, or the like, which were too ufuall in former times; but all the Measures were strictly observed, that are the requisits of a truely *impartial Judgment*.

I needed not so have sent unto you the Doubles of the Depositions themselves: Because it is *not denyed* that the Depositions are such as they are represented in the Pleadings, the chief question being anent the Ability of the last De-

ponents. Neither was you to expect the *Defenders part* of the Debate, separately by it self, in respect that what was *dispersed* here and there for them is faithfully *repeated* or *implyed* in what you have: As to those points which I thought worth the *Noting*.

Upon the whole I do believe; *that* there is scarcely a more rare providence of this nature in any true History; a more *exact caution* in any enquiry or Trial of this kind: A more clear *probation*, without confession of the Pannals themselves, or, a more *just sentence*, putting together all circumstances, upon record.

I am, what you have made me,

Yours, &c.

FINIS.

ADVERTISEMENT

AFter printing of what preceeds, there came Intelligence from the Countrey, that a Person who is *Rich*, and stayes in a *publick place*, designed in the Natretive by the first Letters of her Name, has, upon hearing that the Narrative was coming abroad, *hired* an *Hackney* to *bring off* her *Repute*: whereby the Undertakers (who are of the Brutal Cabal of our *puny Wits*) are to take occasion of obscuring the Truth of the whole History. There was such regard had to the Fame of those whom, as yet, there has not been *opportunity* to bring to their Trial, that commonly, there are only *initial Letters* for their Names: And there is such inconteſtible Evidence for the Facts here Narrated, that it is impoſſible, without the moſt effronted *impudence* and *falſehood*, to contradict them: Yet if the *Root of all Evil*, and *Spite* againſt Truth, ſhall ſo far prevail over *natural Ingenuity*, as to advance *bare-faced Lyes* againſt *Realitys*, and give the World *foppiſh Banter* in place of good *Reaſoning*, thereby to delude the Opinion of thoſe who were not Eye and Ear Witneſſes; the Authors (whoſe Names, though told, are not here inſert, becauſe the Information may faill) may expect to be *Characteriz'd*, and otherways taken notice of, according to the demerit of ſuch a Villanous project.

The Reader is intreated to excuſe ſuch Errors in the Printing, occaſioned by the indiſtinctneſs of the writen Copie; which are eaſily corrigible by the Context.